

Playground and Recreation

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Leadership, What, When and to What End?

By Joseph Lee

Provisions for Play in the Neighborhood Unit

How the New Regional Plan for New York Would Extend
Recreation Facilities

By Clarence Arthur Perry

Recreation in Relation to Work

By Howard S. Braucher

Are We Carrying the Play Idea Too Far?

A Symposium

Little Stories from the Playgrounds

Plays from the Orient

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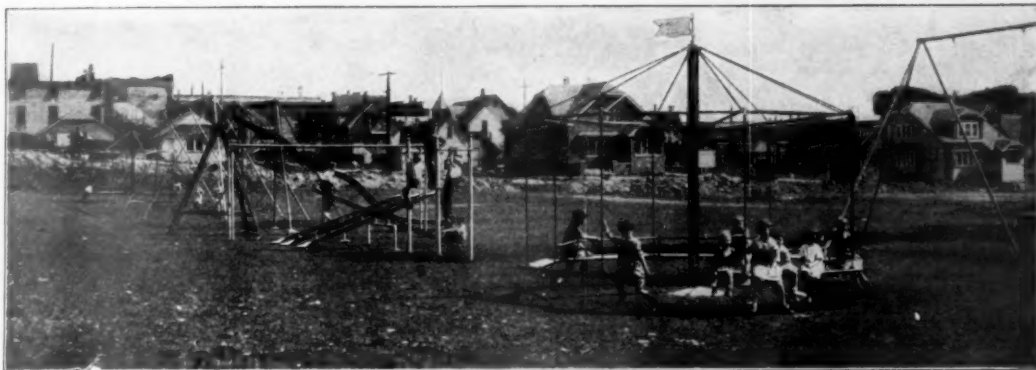
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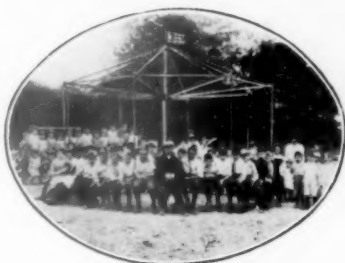
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KEEPING COOL IN OAK PARK, ILLINOIS

Playground and Recreation

World at Play

Playground Ball for the Girls of Austin.—Playground ball has become the most popular sport for the girls of Austin, Texas, and under the leadership of the Recreation Department six teams are now playing in the city loop.

A Greek Pageant in California.—The Greek Theatre of the University of California was the scene on July seventeenth of *A Greek Harvest Festival*, given under the direction of Mari Ruef Hofer. The pageant was taken from Miss Hofer's *Greek Festival Series*, published by the Clayton F. Summy Company, Chicago. History, literature, music, dance, sculpture, color, drama and all the arts were blended in the presentation given by the students of the summer school of the University and the Wisler School.

"Pirates of Penzance" Delights Jacksonville.—In June the Jacksonville, Florida, Playground and Recreation Department presented its fourth operatic performance, the Gilbert and Sullivan opera, *Pirates of Penzance*. It was an out-of-door performance held at the municipal stadium, attended by over 3,000 people.

An Athletic Festival for Adults.—Reading, Pennsylvania, held its first athletic festival for adults on July twentieth when the policemen, firemen and industrial "boys" of the city had an afternoon of fun under the auspices of the Recreation Department. The program consisted of band selections, a short address on fire prevention and a talk by the Mayor, dashes, shuttle relay races, a wall scaling contest between two of the fire companies and a baseball game and tug-of-war between the firemen and police.

A Drama Contest in Waukegan, Illinois.—Eight different groups took part in the one-act play contest held in June under the auspices of

the Waukegan Playground and Recreation Board. The plays were directed and produced by the groups themselves, each play being judged on the following basis—fifty percent for general presentation, twenty-five percent for acting and twenty-five percent for choice of play. A number of the groups taking part consisted of young people's organizations from churches, Catholic, Jewish and Protestant denominations being represented.

San Francisco Recreation Department Presents Play.—At the fourth session of the National Conference of Social Work held on June twenty-fifth, a cast from the San Francisco Recreation Department presented *The Mothers in the Case*, a play by Mary Katherine Reely.

Lynchburg's Doll Show.—The setting for Lynchburg's annual doll show was a stage under the elms and oaks of Miller Park, arranged in the center of a large amphitheatre, roped off with vari-colored ribbons. The event opened with the presentation of a play, *The Doll's Wedding*, followed by several musical numbers. Dolls of all ages, sizes and nationalities made their appearance, many of them entered by adults. One of the most interesting exhibits was the oldest doll, carved by Japanese of ivory over a century ago. Several other dolls were seventy-five years of age and there were a number of beautiful wax dolls, old china headed dolls and dolls made on Indian reservations. Many families of dolls were entered, the largest consisting of twenty-seven members. There were dolls carved of wood, plastic wood puppets, rubber inner-tube dolls and a doll made from a pig's foot.

Kites and Logs.—An interesting event of the past summer in Chicago was the launching in Lake Michigan of kites with a log attached to a string. "We have had three or four returns from

this," writes V. K. Brown of the Chicago South Park Commissioners, "one coming from the Michigan side about 150 miles up the lake. We attached the bottle to the log asking the finder to tell us where precisely he found the message. Another year, profiting by the experience we have had this year, we expect the kite race to be more successful. The logs pulled through the water so fast that a number of them went down within sight of start. We plan to have a kite duration contest, putting kites up and seeing how long they will stay afloat as a means of discovering which type of kite is best adapted to this kind of race."

Soap Sculpture.—The soap modeling exhibit held in New York in June, at which several thousand pieces were displayed, showed remarkable results among senior and junior amateurs. Though there were entries by professionals, these seemed to be less significant, one commentator has stated, than the work done by school children. A number of subjects included athletes of various types in action, and a large number of the subjects were animals. President Hoover and Colonel Lindbergh were the inspiration of several of the competitors. A visitor at the exhibit has commented on the fact that he saw no collections entered by recreation organizations as such. He suggests that it might be well worthwhile from an educational point of view to have some of the playgrounds enter this competition, as the exhibit is sent on a tour throughout the United States.

Useful Play.—One of the unusual activities on the playgrounds conducted by the Philadelphia Playgrounds Association last summer, was a Japanese beetle hunt. Four and a half days were devoted to the pursuit of these pests and at the end of that time silver loving cups were given those who had succeeded in collecting the greatest number of beetles. At the Friends' Select Playground a beetle circus was held and the beetles put through their tricks.

A Wood Chopping Contest.—Wood chopping is not always regarded as recreation, but the Recreation Commission of Elmira, New York, has demonstrated that it can be made a successful part of a city's program when the contest idea is introduced. In July the Commission held such a contest, witnessed by more than 500 people. The first prize winner chopped through a fourteen inch hard beach log in five minutes and fifty-six seconds.

Camping in Palisades Interstate Park.—

The Commissioners of the Palisades Interstate Park of New York have announced that sixty-five different organizations, occupying ninety-one separate and complete camp units, ranging from three or four structures each to thirty or forty, have been installed about the lakes in the six principal camping regions of the park and in scattered locations elsewhere. There is ample room for more camps, it is stated, and the commissioners offer cooperation in financing the erection and extension of such camps by advancing the initial cost to any group which gives assurance of reasonably long tenancy, and requiring only an annual maintenance charge amounting to one-eighth of the total capital outlay. This assistance has been made possible by large gifts to the park by philanthropic institutions and individuals who recognize the usefulness of the service. The maintenance charge covers original construction costs and cost of sanitation and policing. The camping department provides an additional service in teaching natural history through the Nature Museum and Trails maintained by the American Museum of Natural History and six regional museums at the camping centers in charge of qualified nature counsellors.

Youngstown is Baseball Mad.—In the sand lots of Youngstown, Ohio, 2,190 men, boys and girls played baseball last summer. With fifteen players signed for each team, there were 1,260 boys and girls playing scheduled games twice a week—eighteen teams for girls, sixty-six for boys, while 930 men played in the twilight leagues.

Baseball Popular in Waukegan.—Baseball was the outstanding athletic activity of the second summer's program conducted by the Playground and Recreation Board of Waukegan, Illinois. Eighteen teams of men played twenty games of ball each week. An industrial league of eight teams played four games a week. There was an American Legion Junior League of boys under seventeen, consisting of eight teams playing four games a week.

The Board makes it a point to keep the batting averages of all the baseball teams playing in its Indoor League. These averages are published in the local *Daily News*, which gives a great deal of space to the activities of the Board.

Playground Children Become Reporters.—

The activities of the various Elmira, New York,

playgrounds were reported by the children themselves for the July, 1928, issue of *The Telegram*, which devoted a page in its Sunday paper to this feature. Pictures showing activities were published in connection with the children's reports.

Detroit Emphasizes Intra-Playground Leagues.—A significant development in last summer's playground program conducted by the Detroit Department of Recreation, was the elimination of interplayground leagues and the placing of emphasis on the organization on every playground of a league in each sport and in each class. Toward the end of the season there was an elimination contest for playgrounds interested.

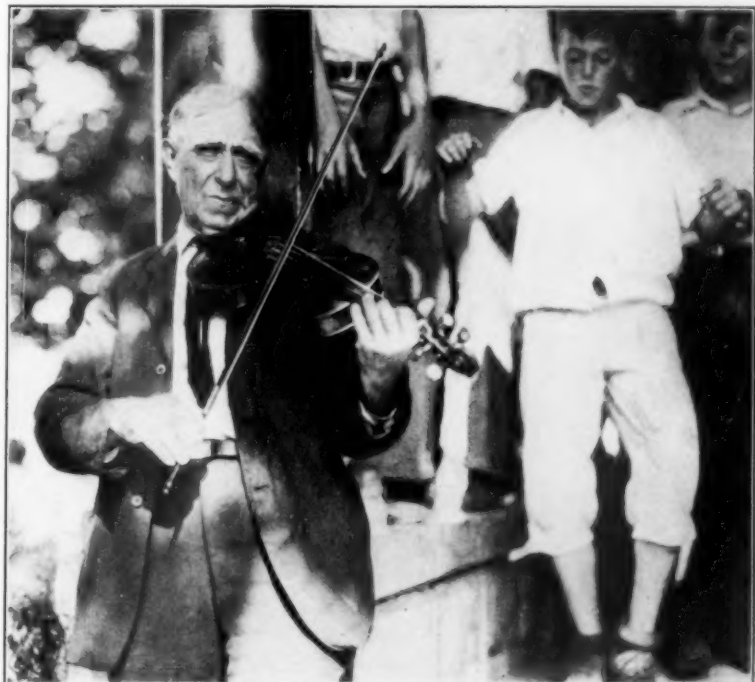
Broom Stick and Derby Week in Cleveland.—At thirty-five of the Cleveland play centers the week of July twenty-second was known as "Broom Stick Derby Week," when contests of all kinds were staged in which broom handles, old canes and wooden poles could be used. There were novelty stunts such as dizzy race, a peanut roll, chin balance, a partner race, peg driving, hobby horse and a host of other races and stunts. There were, too, contests for the best decorated sticks, ornamented with wall paper, paints, crepe paper or shellac.

Philadelphia Parks to Be Used as Playgrounds.—Recreation officials in Philadelphia found great cause for rejoicing in Mayor Mackey's announcement in July that the parks of the city may be used for playgrounds for children. The Playgrounds Association was requested by the Mayor to inaugurate the movement by operating one or more park playgrounds to prove the need and to develop methods suitable for park uses. The Executive Committee of the Playgrounds Association immediately appropriated \$600 for the purpose.

Oak Park Reports Accomplishments.—The seventh annual report of the Playground Board of Oak Park, Illinois, for the year 1928, cites among

the chief accomplishments the completion of plans begun eight years ago for the landscaping of the playgrounds and the opening of four shelter houses, one on each of the four municipal playgrounds. The design used in the buildings won first prize in an architectural contest held by the Playground Board. The buildings were erected at a cost of \$40,000 and were financed by a bond issue. The large assembly room in each building with its open fireplace, its book shelves, rafted walls and ceilings and rustic furniture, provides the stage for various play activities, handcraft, dancing, dramatics, games and club meetings. Here the children may read, play table games or take part in a play; they may learn to make baskets and bird houses or to cook and prepare a meal; they may hold club meetings and bring in their neighborhood orchestra.

The groups using the center have included adults as well as children. Many men's and women's groups have found the buildings an inviting background for small meetings, while individuals have availed themselves of their use for private entertainments. The variety of uses to which the buildings have been placed is illustrated at one playground where within a few weeks there were held a wedding, three graduation parties, a mothers' and fathers' banquet and a school play festival.



Louisville, Kentucky.

OLD FIDDLERS' CONTEST AT COMMUNITY NIGHT

One of the outstanding features of the play centers are the murals, oil and water color paintings that decorate the walls. These represent studies of characters from the most famous works of the authors after whom the playgrounds were named—Eugene Field, Robert Louis Stevenson, Hans Andersen and Lewis Carroll.

A Japanese Tea in Jacksonville, Florida.—A suggestion for raising funds for equipment and supplies comes from Jacksonville, where at one of the play parks a Japanese tea was held in August to raise money for supplies at the park. During the evening a program of music and dancing was given in a setting typically Oriental. To add interest to the occasion, awards were given winners in the game of bunco, to the adult wearing the most effective Japanese costume, and to the child with the most attractive costume.

Niles Secures a Park.—For years Niles, Ohio, has been struggling over the problem of land for a park, states the July 24th issue of the *Niles Daily Times*. A solution recently came in the action of Jacob D. Waddell, a well known citizen, in presenting fifty-two acres of land to the city for park purposes. The property is located just outside the city limits and is ideal for the purpose, a section of it being heavily wooded, other parts being well adapted for recreational uses. The City Council will, it is stated, install necessary shower, light and water facilities and will help in every way to develop roads which are needed in the park. The city will receive the property with a clear title, free of all encumbrances. The control will be vested in the Park Commission.

New Recreation Activities in Wilmette.—Last summer the Playground and Recreation Board of Wilmette, Illinois, organized a riding class for beginners, meeting two nights a week. An instructor was employed to teach the rudiments of riding. This class was so popular that it soon became necessary to arrange for a second class. A beginners' class in golf was started about the same time as the riding class and this too, rapidly developed into two classes. The women receiving golf instruction met weekly with an instructor who taught them the various puts and drives.

Publicity for Cincinnati Playgrounds.—The *Cincinnati Times Star* devotes a page each

week to the activities of the Public Recreation Commission. Each playground has its story and in addition there are a number of items telling of affairs of community wide interest. The result is an unusually large amount of publicity for the local movement.

A New Building in Melrose, Massachusetts.—The playground movement in Melrose, Massachusetts, marked this summer by the erection of a building adjacent to the hockey rink which is serving two main purposes. It was used during the summer to house the practical arts courses which were so important a part of the playground program, sessions being held every afternoon. In the shop section of the building were installed a power circular saw, a power jig saw and a power lathe. The boys were supplied without cost all the tools necessary for the building of model aircraft. The only charge made was for the material used, which was sold the boys at actual cost. Cement construction was another form of handcraft for which facilities were provided in the building. The boys were taught to make flower boxes, bird baths, garden benches, posts and similar articles. The cost to the boys was the actual cost of the cement used. The model boats made were tested and raced in the adjoining rink and the large field adjacent to the house was used for testing and flying model aircraft.

The second purpose of the building is to provide facilities for hockey teams using the rink, said to be the largest outdoor rink in greater Boston that is illuminated for night hockey.

Park labor was used in erecting the building, with the result that the expense of the construction, outside of the cost of machinery and tools, was only \$800.

Greenwich, Connecticut, Honors Sports.—Nearly 300 people gathered at the first annual sports banquet held last spring under the auspices of the Greenwich, Connecticut, Recreation Board. There were present local athletic champions, national champions and representatives of local groups of all kinds participating in athletic activities. In addition to representatives of baseball, basketball, and bowling teams and all other forms of organized athletics, there were archers, riders, yachtsmen, polo players, wrestlers and others.

Dr. George E. Vincent, President of the Rockefeller Foundation, served as toastmaster of this most successful banquet.

Jacksonville's 1929 Doll Show.—A feature of unusual interest at the doll show held under the auspices of the Playground and Recreation Department of Jacksonville, Florida, was the miniature village. A youthful "city planner" arranged the buildings, which were made on the playgrounds, laid out the streets and planted the shrubbery in a manner truly municipal. Doll houses, stores and other buildings owned by boys and girls were all incorporated in the village. The boy or girl having the best house and yard in the doll village was given a special award.

Inexpensive Home and Community Activities.—The Department of Municipal Recreation of the Evansville, Indiana, Board of Park Commissioners, has issued a twenty-four page mimeographed statement containing a number of games and stunts. A particularly suggestive section of the bulletin is that dealing with programs for progressive game parties. Copies of the bulletin may be secured for fifteen cents from G. G. Eppley, Director of Recreation.

The Woodbine Playhouse.—The Woodbine, New Jersey, Community Center has an organization known as the Playhouse, which is conducted as a club. The membership consists of girls between six and twelve years of age. The director is a twelve-year-old girl and the various committees are headed by her youthful associates. On July 20th, the Playhouse was dedicated. Following this came a demonstration of the regular playground program.

Mayor's Point of View.—Closely allied to law enforcement is crime prevention, and this can best be brought about through supervised amusements, outdoor games and recreational activities, together with adequate provision to cover the legitimate play life for all citizens. These are dominant factors in the elimination of crime, and in my opinion, among the most urgent matters demanding consideration.

It shall be my earnest endeavor as mayor of this city to urge that suitable arrangements be made to care for the recreational and play life of our citizens, believing that we can do nothing which will be more beneficial both morally and physically in the lives of the citizens of Los Angeles than the providing of supervised play and recreational activities.—*Extract from address of Mayor Porter of Los Angeles at banquet given in his honor by his campaign committee.*

Seven and a Half Millions for Amusements.—New York State boys 14 to 17 years old attending continuation schools spend more than \$7,500,000 in a year for amusements, according to a report by the Industrial Bureau of the New York State Department of Education. The average amount expended is 15% of what the boy earns; 27 9/10% of the boys reporting spend \$2.00 a week for amusements; 27 1/10% spend \$1.00 a week.

Dr. Lewis A. Wilson, Assistant Commissioner for Extension and Vocational Education, emphasizes the tremendous sums being spent by grown-up brothers and sisters on baseball and football games, prize fights, horse races, and urges that communities provide better recreation activities that are not commercial.

A Playground for South Weymouth, Massachusetts.—Allen V. Holbrook has given the children of South Weymouth, Massachusetts, a playground as a memorial to his parents. A summer house has been erected in the center of the plot and attractive shrubbery planted to decorate the grounds. Mr. Holbrook will maintain the playground at his own expense.

Donated Playground for Los Angeles.—Following the request issued by the Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department, for the reservation of play areas in new sub-divisions, a playground site has been deeded to the Department by Carlin G. Smith, well known real estate man of Los Angeles. The tract is picturesquely beautiful in its natural landscaping. The Le Moyne Terrace No. 2 Improvement Association, which presented the property to the Department on behalf of Mr. Smith, requested that the area be named the "Carlin G. Smith Playground."

A Gift for Fresno.—Through the will of Mrs. Bessie M. Ball, the Fresno Playground Commission has received \$25,000 for a new swimming pool. This pool, which will be constructed on the Frank H. Ball Playground, is to be equipped with dressing rooms and showers, swings, slides and other equipment, and the immediate area will be planted with shrubbery and flowers to make it attractive.

Swimming in Seattle.—During the past ten years 50,000 boys and girls have learned to swim through the swimming and life saving classes promoted by the Playground Department, Park

Board, Seattle, Washington. During the past year the city has secured a beautiful new bathing beach, one-half mile in length and has constructed and put in operation a bath house, costing \$10,000. Seattle's swimming and life saving program operated on twelve lake and ocean beaches is one of the most extensive on the Pacific coast.

Bonds for Recreation.—Bonds for \$10,000 have been approved in Belleville, New Jersey, to cover the cost of equipment and improvement of the grounds of the community house conducted by the Belleville Recreation Commission.

Tucson Issues Bond.—By an overwhelming majority the citizens of Tucson, Arizona, voted bonds for \$100,000 for playgrounds and swimming pools.

For the Twenty-Fourth Year.—The Playground and Vacation School Association of Allegheny, Inc., (Pittsburgh, North Side) has issued its twenty-fourth annual report. The report tells of the activities of twenty-two school playgrounds and vacation schools, of the Mary J. Cowley Recreation Park, of a number of swimming pools and ball parks and of playgrounds at five institutions for children—a total of forty-two centers.

During the summer of 1928 the Association employed a violinist who went from playground to playground playing to the children. Another feature of the work which has gone on continuously since the initiation of the work of the Association was the supplying of flowers at many of the centers.

A Survey of Metropolitan Pittsburgh.—In the June issue of the American City appears an article entitled, *Surveying the Public Parks and Recreation Facilities and Needs of a Metropolitan District*, by W. C. Batchelor, Superintendent of Recreation at Pittsburgh. The article, taken from the report of a study made under the direction of Mr. Batchelor, presents a graphic method of showing how facilities compare with needs and of sentiment created to meet these needs.

The report points out that Metropolitan Pittsburgh needs 8,220 additional acres of park and recreation space, including sixteen playground sites, eight athletic field sites, twenty-two neighborhood park sites and 7,964 acres major parks and areas incidental to boulevards.

A Survey of Recreational Facilities in Rochester, New York.—The Rochester Bureau

of Municipal Research has published in a volume of 410 pages the results of a study made of the city's recreational facilities by Charles B. Raitt. The study, which was made at the request of the Council of Social Agencies of Rochester, is presented under the following headings: 1. Public (Tax Supported) Recreation; 2. Semi-Public Recreation; 3. Commercial Recreation; 4. Provision for Recreation by Industrial Establishments; 5. Provision for Recreation by Private Groups and 6. General Summary. A number of charts, maps and illustrations are included.

The survey, which is very comprehensive and detailed, follows three general lines.

1. What can be accomplished immediately, with little or no additional cost
2. What can be accomplished in the next five years by making use of unused city-owned areas, by minor acquisitions, by increased personnel, and by more intensive use of present facilities
3. What can be accomplished in the next fifteen to twenty-five years, with major acquisitions of recreation areas, coming to the city as gifts from generous citizens or by direct purchase when and if funds are available.

Are You For Recreation?—"Are you in favor of organized recreation? Are you in favor of the recreation program as now conducted? Are you in favor of extending the recreation program?" These were the three questions on which the village of Hibbing, Minnesota, location precincts and rural precincts voted at the school election held on July 26th. The result of the voting was as follows:

Village precincts gave a 2.6 to 1 favorable vote. Location precincts gave a 4.6 to 1 favorable vote. Rural precincts gave a 3.4 to 1 favorable vote. The total vote cast gave a 2.96 to 1 favorable vote.

Anniston's First Municipal Park.—The first municipal park which the city of Anniston, Alabama, has owned, was recently dedicated with impressive services. The property has been named Zinn Park in honor of the late Colonel William H. Zinn whose efforts and legacies have made the park possible.

California Spends Large Sum for Parks and Recreation.—The State of California, through the office of the State Comptroller, has reported the financial statistics on California municipalities including statements and amounts spent for park

and recreation service. The report covers 270 municipalities. It records a total expenditure for parks and recreation in 1928 of \$9,591,956.14, with income from fees and charges of \$1,395,056.97. It also reports the value of park properties owned by the municipalities in California as \$101,332,579.81. County governments in the state are reported as spending \$1,840,840.10 for parks and recreation.

Keeping 'Em Cool.—Last summer the Danville, Virginia, Recreation and Playground Association, with the cooperation of the city water and fire departments, introduced street showers. A number of the showers, designed by Willis H. Edmund, Director of the Association, were constructed very reasonably by a local plumber. The fire department loaned fifty feet of old hose and the connections for each shower, and the water department gave permission to fasten them to the city fire plugs.

A Swimming Pool for Lexington, Massachusetts.—Lexington, Massachusetts, is to have a new swimming pool at one of the playgrounds, for which contracts have been awarded to the amount of \$10,954. The specifications call for two pools, a wading pool thirty-five feet square running in depth from six inches to three feet, and a swimming pool thirty-five by seventy-five feet, with a depth varying from four to eight feet. Between the two pools there will be a bath house, one side for men and boys, the other side for women and girls, with showers and lockers. The bath house will be built of brick or concrete blocks and the entire swimming pool area will be surrounded by a wire fence, six feet high.

A Portable Swimming Pool.—The absence of a swimming pool or other bathing facilities, either natural or artificial, proved no handicap for the children of Southern Wisconsin. For the Janesville, Wisconsin, Gazette, which conducted a swimming and life saving campaign during the past year, found an ingenious portable swimming tank which travelled all over southern Wisconsin on a definite schedule.

The pool is oval in shape and made of the heaviest quality duck obtainable, which has been sized and made still more water-proof with a specially prepared paint. Set up on steel frames, it measures twenty feet long by fourteen feet wide by forty inches deep and holds 4500 gallons of water. The tank weighs 750 pounds. With the

added platform equipment it weighs about a thousand pounds. A swimming instructor accompanied the tank to teach the children swimming and life-saving in accordance with Red Cross methods.

A New Municipal Plunge Opened.—As the newest addition to the Los Angeles system of municipal plunges, the North Hollywood swimming pool, recently completed, was dedicated by the Playground and Recreation Commission on June fifteenth in an all day program. Free swims were offered the public both in the morning and afternoon of the dedication day. Music was provided by the playground boys' band and there were exhibitions of swimming and diving by members of the Los Angeles Athletic Club. The new swimming center consists of a large recreation plunge, a smaller pool for instruction purposes and a modern Spanish type bath house. It is equipped with the latest filtration and sanitation system.

Waco Learns to Swim.—The Department of Parks and Playgrounds of Waco, Texas, last August conducted a learn-to-swim campaign for five classes—children under twelve and individuals over twelve years of age in classes for boys, girls, men and women. More than 350 children and adults enrolled in the classes.

Playground Gardens.—Home and playground gardens proved very popular last summer in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and as the result of the interest aroused there were 508 entries of flowers and vegetables shown in the exhibit held under the auspices of the Playground Commission. In addition to the flowers and vegetables, canned goods, garden books, posters and notebooks were exhibited. Honors were awarded for the best playground and home gardens, the best variety of vegetables and flowers in home and playground plots, for numerous flower and vegetable specials, flower books, garden maps and posters.

Nature Study in Waukegan.—Nature study classes were reported by the Playground and Recreation Board of Waukegan, Illinois, to be one of the most successful activities of the summer playground program. Members of the Conservation Committee of the Woman's Club visited almost every playground once a week and through story and game methods taught the children to know and care for tree and flowers. The children

made many beautiful scrap books containing specimens of leaves, bark and wild flowers, mounted and labeled.

Ducks and Turtles Win in Elmira.—A loud speaking duck and two snappy little turtles were among the prize winners when the children of the Elmira, New York, playgrounds exhibited their pets in connection with the pet and hobby week program conducted by the Recreation Commission. They were all there—the white rats, the dogs, the cats and all the others. A representative of the Band of Mercy visited all the parks during the exhibit and talked to the children about the care of animals.

Enter the Cowboys.—A new feature of the Music Jamboree held each year on the Houston playgrounds, is "cowboy singing." Under the leadership of "Texas Jack," a Houstonian well versed in the music of the cattle lands, the boys last summer learned and for two months practiced songs of the wild western plains. In connection with the singing, the boys learned the accompaniment on their harmonicas. Rope throwing "a la Rogers" was taught them by the athletic directors, making the picture complete in every detail.

Music on the Playground.—Children of the Melrose, Massachusetts, playgrounds enjoyed music every day during the past summer through the installation of a special combination phonograph amplifying unit and dynamic loud speaker. This broadcasting of phonograph records was used principally for teaching folk dancing and singing at the various playgrounds.

The Boston Symphony Goes Out of Doors. Because of the generosity of a number of Boston's public spirited citizens, it has been possible for all the people of Boston to enjoy the Boston Symphony Concert. Forty-six musicians from the Symphony last summer on the Charles River Esplanade gave weekly concerts attended by many thousands of people.

The Baltimore P. A. L. Promotes Harmonica Playing.—In December, 1927, the Baltimore Playground Athletic League, believing that harmonica playing represents a splendid means of organizing the recreation of boys and girls in increasing their interest in music, secured the cooperation of the schools and of Frederick Sonnen,

of the Hohner Company, in a plan to develop harmonica playing in the schools. Mr. Sonnen, who is an accomplished player, made his first visit to the schools in December. He devoted one day a week to giving instruction, giving eight periods a day to the project until February when it became desirable to increase the time to two days a week.

By May 15, bands had been organized with an enrollment of 1,167 members. From the different school groups was organized a Baltimore City Harmonica Band consisting of boys between the ages of twelve and eighteen. This year the work has been extended into Prince George county at the request of the county, and Mr. Sonnen is devoting three days a week to the program in the schools. At the end of the school season a contest was held.

Up to the present time twenty-nine bands have been organized with an enrollment of 1,679 members. The Baltimore City Band again entered the Philadelphia contest and this year won second place.

Activities for the Negro Citizens of San Antonio.—A concert by the Negro Civic Chorus and Civic Jubilee Singers held at the Municipal Auditorium was one of the contributions made in June by the Negro Division of the San Antonio, Texas, Department of Recreation. The Chorus gave a program of spirituals while the Civic Jubilee Singers had a varied program including LaForge's *121st Psalm*. Among the soloists was George L. Johnson, of the staff of the P. R. A. A., who trained and directed the chorus.

Drama as well as music has an important part in the program of the Negro Division. In May, the Negro Little Theatre presented *The Trial of Mary Dugan*.

Public Playgrounds for Turkey.—Asa K. Jennings writes that the National Child Welfare Association, with which he is associated, is establishing a playground at Angora, the capital of Turkey, which it is hoped will eventually become a training center. In connection with the playground, the first swimming pool Turkey has ever known is being constructed. Mr. Jennings also helped to organize the first playground at Smyrna. He is looking forward to the time when there will be a public playground in every city in Turkey.

Family Recreation.—In *Parent Education Letter No. Ten*, issued by the Bureau of Educa-

tion, United States Department of Interior, the following suggestions are offered regarding family recreation:

"Let us provide and join in home games such as crokinole, parchesi, checkers, pit, dominoes, and flinch, and invite the playmates of our children to join in the games. Let us make our home a welcome place for all our children's friends. When we play with the little children they must not be allowed to win too often. We want them early to accept defeat without sorrow and despair and to win without becoming 'cocky.' There is no better way to teach sportsmanship than through the family fireside games.

"Let us go skating with our children, swimming, coasting, and join with them in their outdoor sports so long as we are welcome.

"With the school-age children let there be a family evening out occasionally when a good movie, musical or other recreation of mutual interest and benefit is shared."

Workmen Attend Novel School Camp.

Two weeks of all round vacation in the mountains and a course in labor problems offered by the Extension Division of the University of California made up the novel vacation enjoyed by many local workers during two weeks in July. Camp Seeley, conducted by the Los Angeles Playground and Recreation Department in the San Bernardino mountains, provided the setting for this attractive school camp.

A Leaders' Training Course in Lynchburg.

—One of the early summer activities of the Lynchburg, Virginia, Department of Recreation and Playgrounds, was the conducting of a training course for play leaders extending over a series of eight classes. The courses included dramatics on the playground, active and quiet games, first aid, talks by newspaper men on publicity and the use of bulletin boards, suggestions for discipline and general instructions.

An Institute for Children's Institutional Workers.—Workers in children's institutions in Wisconsin to the number of about ninety gathered at an institute held at the State Public School at Sparta, July 9 to 12. *The Use of Leisure* was the subject of an important section of the conference. Miss Dorothy Enderis, Director of the Extension Department of the Milwaukee Public Schools, for two hours each day gave demonstrations of the possibilities of play in institutions, particularly

of indoor play, table games and similar activities. Only two sessions were devoted to theory—the rest of the time was spent in demonstrations of handcraft, music, games and other activities.

Children of Peoria Parade.—The cooperation of the various agencies doing children's work in Peoria, Illinois, made possible last summer a very impressive parade. About 2,500 children took part. The parade was headed by a twenty-piece band. Each school had its school banner, national colors, and guard and traffic squad in front of its group. The parade is to be made an annual event, based on the historical episodes in the building up of Peoria as a city.

Charlotte Holds Easter Sunday Sunrise Service.—In 1929, Charlotte, North Carolina, held its second annual Easter Sunday Sunrise Service, promoted by the Park and Recreation Commission in cooperation with the Young People's Leagues of the Charlotte churches and the Ministerial Association. Between 3,000 and 3,500 people enjoyed the ceremony. The Boy Scout Band from the Myers Park Moravian Church played Easter carols and other selections in various parts of the city before the beginning of the service. The large cross used last year was again erected and covered with flowers donated by a local tradesman.

Home Talent Chautauquas.—In the Rural News Letter issued in July, 1929, by the Extension Service, Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts, W. H. Stacy stating that home talent chautauquas are growing in favor tells of the chautauqua developed under the leadership of Rev. N. V. Bocken at Stratford, Iowa.

"It was a four-day affair with six big performances. Practically no outside talent was used. On the other hand, it seemed as though everyone in the community took part. There was a toy symphony orchestra of twenty-five children, a community chorus of forty voices, a local farmers' band, a county 4H club band, a Midgets' day parade in which sixty local children took part, a ladies' quartet, an old time fiddlers' contest and a marvelous array of special selections and feature numbers."

The women of the Black Hawk, Iowa, County Farm Bureau, brought their rural recreation project to a climax with a County Home Talent Chautauqua. During the week of June 17th, they arranged a series of home talent programs in the

East High Auditorium in Waterloo, including home talent plays and music. Season tickets at \$2.00 paid overhead costs and "all the money, all the fun and all the values of better trained talent remained in the county."

Community Costume Party at Grosse Point.—A costume party in which the entire community was asked to contribute to the entertainment was a feature last summer of the program conducted by the Neighborhood Club Playground at Grosse Point, Michigan. Although it was not necessary to masquerade in order to attend the party, prizes were awarded for the most original, the cleverest and the most comical costumes. Points toward the pins and emblems to be awarded at the end of the season were given those who contributed to the afternoon's entertainment.

Cedar Rapids Holds Play Festival.—Old King Cole followed tradition and ordered his pipe, bowl and fiddlers. Ropers whirled fancy loops and miniature airplanes skimmed along the lofty ceiling at the Memorial Building one day last August as the children of Cedar Rapids playgrounds presented a program showing their various activities to an audience of 1,500 people.

The program marked the culmination of the summer playground season. Festivities opened at one o'clock with an exhibition in the armory section of the building at which the children showed the hundreds of articles made at the play centers this season. The Cedar Rapids Drum and Bugle Corps, resplendent in colorful uniforms, inaugurated the evening of fun by presenting a medley of numbers. Children under seven and boys and girls over this age then presented a number of singing games. Next came the dramatization of Old King Cole and a program of aero-devil spinning, flying of airplanes, selections by the Ukulele Club, and the Roosevelt boys quartet and other interesting demonstrations.

Playground Dramatics in Louisville.—Pageants played a delightful part last summer in the playground program of the Louisville Board of Park Commissioners.

On August 17th at Chickasaw Park, *Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp* was presented by a number of the playgrounds. Aladdin has con-

quered his difficulties and is seated in his garden awaiting the arrival of the princess. To entertain his attendants while he awaits her coming he rubs his wonderful lamp and calls forth the folk dancers, tumblers, fire eaters, sword dancers, bands and quartets and other youthful performers from the playgrounds.

On August 30th at Iroquois Park, *The Pied Piper of Hamelin* was given. The pageant was arranged and directed by Dorothea Nelson, Assistant Director of Recreation.

Celebrating Its Two Hundredth Anniversary.—On June 24-25-26, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, celebrated the two hundredth anniversary of its founding by presenting *The Pageant of Gratitude*, written and directed by Percy Jewett Burrell. This historical spectacle presented through drama, music and dance, was given by 3,000 people, many of them descendants of the original settlers.

Archery for the Girls of Houston.—During the past summer the Houston Recreation Department offered archery classes for women and girls. The Department furnished bows, arrows and targets but charged a nominal fee of fifteen cents for instruction.

Girls Enter Aircraft Tournament.—Are girls interested in model aircraft?

The tournament held in Elizabeth, New Jersey, in May proved that they are, for fifty girls entered the contest, over thirty of whom completed and flew planes from twenty-five seconds to one minute and fifty seconds. The interest of these girls had been aroused through the courses in model aircraft building held in the schools after school hours, and for weeks before the meet the girls were busy building and testing their planes. About eighty boys took part in the tournament, which was attended by between 1,500 and 1,600 enthusiastic onlookers.

The indoor events included hand-launched, fuselage, R. O. G. and an aerial combat. The features of the outdoor tournament were hand-launched, fuselage, R. O. G. and a speed contest. Winners of first and second places in each event were awarded medals.

Leadership, What, When and to What End

The crux of the matter will be how to reconcile standards with creation. Is it well that children should be taught tennis as Helen Wills was taught it—a far more thorough training than any professional had? Just where does teaching interfere with originality, and where on the other hand does it make room for it?

Teaching a game enlarges the field for originality. A boy who has learned football, for instance, has more choices to make than if he had not. Teaching skills and the knowledge of tools will help.

My own sad experience with water colors is an instance. If I had been taught how to handle paints when I was eight years old, I should have saved about sixty years of floundering in which I have never been up against the principles of art because my infernal material stood between me and all artistic questions. I learned more in one year with crayon, which I could handle, than in the preceding sixty years with water color, because my problems in the crayon work were prac-

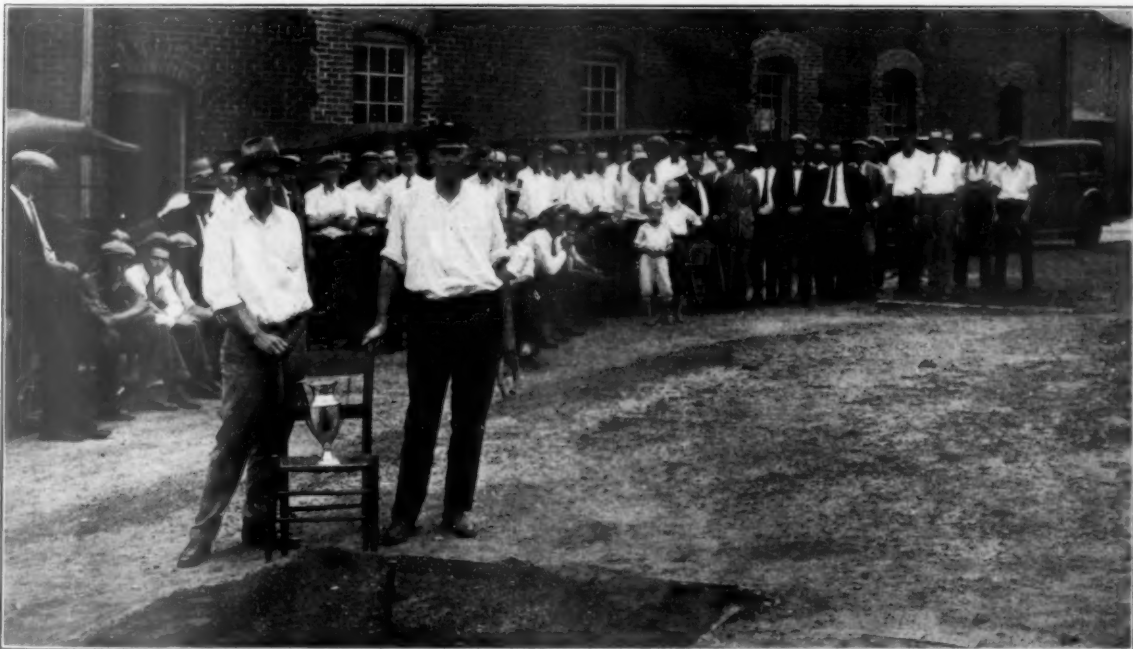
tically all artistic. With water color I had *no* artistic problems because I never was able to trace any relation between what I started to do and what happened. It was like my game of tennis, in which I have never really thought of the strategy because strategy is of negligible importance if you never hit the ball. (A case of the absence of a "skill").

Something of course can be learned even in mastering technique. Technique is a wild and wooly word including skill and style. The latter (fortunately) can't be taught.

Technique may stand between you and art, not as a bridge but as a wall of exclusion. One kindergarten teacher will not allow her kindergarten children to be taught any technique, as it kills imagination. Instead the teacher has fed technique to the children very slowly as they need it.

The accuracy and proficiency that many teachers want of a child is that of copying a bird printed in a book or drawn on the blackboard. As a result of this the child never sees a bird nor has the slightest idea what one looks like, or any imagination about it such as could possibly produce a work of art. It is a good way of sterilizing the artistic impulse and making that child immune. The kindergarten teacher has reported class after class leaving the kindergarten full of imagination sterilized in this way before they have finished the first grade.

JOSEPH LEE.



FINALS IN THE SENIOR HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT AT WINSTON-SALEM. ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY MEN ENTERED THE TOURNAMENT

Provisions for Play in the Neighborhood Unit

By

CLARENCE ARTHUR PERRY

Russell Sage Foundation, New York City

On May 27, 1929, the leading proposals of the Regional Plan of New York and Its Environs were made public. The event marked the practical completion of a seven years' study which has involved an expenditure of over \$1,000,000 by the Russell Sage Foundation. It has been characterized by *The American City* as "the most notable union of financial support and technical skill" that has ever been involved in a city planning project. While its recommendations refer specifically to the 5,528 square miles which constitute the "region" in and about New York City, many of them have applicability to conditions in cities and suburban districts throughout the country. This statement is particularly true as respects the studies

presented under the title of Neighborhood and Community Planning in Volume VII of the Regional Survey, which has just come from the press.

Recreation workers will be particularly interested in the monograph *The Neighborhood Unit, A Scheme of Arrangement for the Family-life Community*, which forms a part of this volume. In its inception, this study had a purely recreational objective. It started out as an attempt to suggest a formula for the distribution of neighborhood parks and playgrounds. Very quickly, however, it was discovered that facilities for play could not be separated from traffic conditions and other matters affecting neighborhood life. Then the project expanded into an effort to discover what principles of lay-out and arrangement a subdivision plan should have to give the greatest service and satisfaction to the resident. The product of that study is a set of interrelated principles, or a scheme, that is called "the neighborhood unit." Before taking up its recreational features, let us see what the scheme as a whole comprises.

THE ELEMENTS OF A NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN

What are the things which the neighborhood ought to furnish the citizen? What should it do for him that the city as a whole cannot do? A little study indicates that there are four main functions to be discharged by the environment immediately surrounding a city residence. It should provide safe and easy access (1) to an elementary school, (2) to congenial and adequate play spaces, and (3) to certain small shops, stores and offices. And (4) it should furnish "residential character." This means all the conveniences and services just mentioned plus a certain quality that comes from the architecture, the landscaping, the lawns and the condition of the streets. This is something that may please us, if it is fine, or disgust us if it



NEIGHBORHOOD UNIT PRINCIPLES

A cardinal feature of the scheme is that it enables families to reach schools, playgrounds and shops without the necessity of crossing any main highways.

is otherwise. It can be just as consciously created as it can, by neglect, be definitely destroyed. A neighborhood is not living up to its opportunities if it does not present a distinctive and pleasing "tone." That is not a luxury, limited only to high cost developments, either, as many of the English garden suburbs have demonstrated. It can, however, be attained only by planning.

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT BASIS AS TO SIZE AND SHAPE

The size of the unit district is determined by the population required to support one elementary school. That varies greatly. Educational authorities say the best type of school accommodates from 1,000 to 1,500 pupils but the majority of schools now in existence are smaller. One model type seats 800 pupils and is adapted to a population of about 5,000 people. At a single family per lot density these people would require about 160 acres and that has been chosen as the preferable size of the neighborhood unit in suburban districts. Such an area would, if it were square, be one-half mile on a side. A school in its center would be within a quarter of a mile of a majority of the homes and less than half a mile from those in the corners. With shopping districts at two or more places in the circumference all the families of the district would be within convenient distance of retail marketing facilities.

The denser the population, the smaller will be the area of the neighborhood district. Since it is a fundamental principle of the unit plan that it is a residential cell and no through traffic is to be allowed to traverse it, the cell itself must grow smaller as the downtown and more congested sections are approached. There the channels required for general circulation must be closer together and the enclosed areas naturally smaller.

The complete scheme is set forth in the following principles:

Neighborhood-Unit Principles¹

1. *Size.*—A residential unit development should provide housing for that population for which one elementary school is ordinarily required, its actual area depending upon population density.

2. *Boundaries.*—The unit should be bounded on all sides by arterial streets, sufficiently wide to facilitate its by-passing by all through traffic.

3. *Open Spaces.*—A system of small parks and recreation spaces, planned to meet the needs of the particular neighborhood, should be provided.

4. *Institution Sites.*—Sites for the school and other institutions having service spheres coinciding with the limits of the unit should be suitably grouped about a central point, or common.

5. *Local Shops.*—One or more shopping districts, adequate for the population to be served, should be laid out in the circumference of the unit, preferably at traffic junctions and adjacent to similar districts of adjoining neighborhoods.

6. *Internal Street System.*—The unit should be provided with a special street system, each highway being proportioned to its probable traffic load, and the street net as a whole being designed to facilitate circulation within the unit and to discourage its use by through traffic.

NEIGHBORHOOD PLAY FACILITIES

In considering the play facilities for the unit district, it should be remembered that large parks, with woodland features, and athletic fields, with grandstands and extensive tracks, have a city-wide reference and do not belong within a neighborhood. In a well-planned town they would be placed in the space *between* neighborhoods.

The amount of land which should be set aside for play and breathing spaces, according to both recreation and progressive real estate authorities, is ten per cent of the total area. In a 160-acre unit that would amount to 16 acres. There are various ways of distributing this space. One way which has commendable features is the following:

Distribution of Open Spaces in a Neighborhood Unit

<i>Use</i>	<i>Acres</i>
School grounds	3.00
Play fields	5.50
Tennis courts	2.25
Commons	2.25
Parklets	3.00
Total	16.00

This apportionment yields a school site somewhat smaller than has been recommended, but it is to be remembered that its area is considered in connection with the other provisions. However, even three acres allows 100 square feet per capita for 1,000 pupils and leaves seven-tenths of an acre for the building and its approaches. If de

¹Regional Survey of New York and Its Environs, Vol. VII, Neighborhood and Community Planning; Monograph One, The Neighborhood Unit, by Clarence A. Perry. 1929.

sired two acres can be taken from the allowance for play fields and added to the school yard. It means simply transferring a field from one place to another. The best arrangement in a given case would depend largely upon the terrain.

The 5.5 acres allowed for play fields is sufficient for two baseball diamonds, either or both of which can, if somewhat rectangular in shape, be also used in the fall for football or field hockey. In the winter they could be flooded for skating. Twelve tennis courts can be installed on 2.25 acres and room found also for a small club house.

The commons is primarily designed to serve as a community center and would ordinarily exhibit a flag-pole, a monument, a bandstand or a fountain. If it were seeded and landscaped it could serve recreational as well as civic purposes. It would have room for a mass-meeting or for volley ball, bowls or informal baseball, and during the long summer twilight might be the scene of many active games involving both adults and youngsters.

The allowance for parklets would be devoted to little circlets, triangles and breathing spaces at street intersections and in front of row houses. Some of these would be large enough for sand piles surrounded by benches where the attendants could sit while their charges disported themselves in the sand.

With such a layout, organized sports and games could be put on for all classes. The school group would naturally use the spaces between and after class hours and Saturday mornings. Evenings and holiday periods the working group would naturally have "first call" on the tennis courts and the play fields. Of course many of both classes would use holidays for excursions so that there would probably be ample play space for all who remained at home.

The above description of a recreational lay-out is only one of many plans which might be made for a neighborhood unit. The scheme itself does not lay down any hard and fast arrangement. The principle which it does set up is that in every case the neighborhood open spaces should be planned so as to secure the best utilization of the particular terrain that is to be subdivided. Another treatment which has many attractive features is that which was worked out by Robert Whitten in a 160-acre subdivision which served as the basis for his study of the economic aspects of the neighborhood unit scheme. (See Monograph Three of Volume VII.)

By reference to the illustration of this plan it will be discovered that the four main play spaces total 8.06 acres and this computation omits the common, which would also be available for many outdoor games. Including the oval and other small parks the total area of the open spaces is seventeen acres. Two thirds of this area Mr. Whitten was able to gain by having narrower streets than are usually laid down on city maps and the other third resulted from shallower house lots. Economies in street improvements were also brought about by placing the several playgrounds in the center of specially shaped large blocks.

The division of recreation space among several specialized play fields as shown above would not suit a municipal park department. The administration and supervision of so many small areas scattered over a city could not be managed economically. But it is a long time before any such practical problem will arise. The above distribution does have its advantages in a small neighborhood community where the residents themselves would support and manage the play fields. There would be no necessity for field houses as the players would dress in their own homes. The tennis courts would probably be supported by a club. Boys and girls would be freer in their own respective fields. Such generous neighborhood play spaces could not be well combined without making blocks so large as to interfere with circulation.

One of the great problems in city growth is to secure the insertion of the proper open spaces at the right time. In new sections on the outskirts people do not feel the need of playgrounds because of the open country surrounding them. After a section has been completely built over and congestion shows the need of playgrounds, their acquisition is very costly to the taxpayer and it is difficult to locate them where they should be. The unit scheme affords a method whereby, in each new development of the school district size, generous spaces, properly located, can be provided at the expense of those who would enjoy them. It thus makes it possible for enterprising communities to supply themselves with superior recreational and other facilities without increasing the burden upon the taxpayer at large.

The unit scheme can also be applied in the re-planning and re-building of central deteriorated districts. Here, however, it is of course not feasible to provide as ample recreational space as can be obtained in open developments.

Editorial Note:—The diagrams illustrating this article are used by courtesy of the Regional Plan of New York and Its Environs.



A computed comparison of the cost of street improvements for the above plan and for the same tract laid out on traditional gridiron lines showed a saving in favor of the neighborhood plan of over \$400,000.00.

The Contribution of Music to Community Life*

Lakin, Kansas, a small town of six hundred inhabitants situated in the western part of the state and typical of many towns in the state and other states of the middle west, has been able to realize something of what music can mean to a community. Music has not only created new life in its pupils but has quickened the spirit of the people of the community and awakened in them a latent respect for their ability, which has resulted in achievement and which is contributing directly to their community life.

Four years ago the school curriculum allowed the usual small amount of credit in music. There was a girls' glee club, meeting three times a week and a twenty minute period each day in every one of the grades was devoted to music. The attitude of the pupils and the majority of the townspeople was more or less indifferent towards the program. The School Board, with the exception of one member, did not see any particular need of music in the schools. The superintendent, though he favored music and desired it in the school program, was not eager to spend money for its support as the community was somewhat pressed to meet its current expenses.

In spite of these unfavorable conditions the music program was enlarged. A boys' glee club was organized and the nucleus for an orchestra was found, consisting of four pupils who were beginning training on the violin. Meanwhile, a community orchestra was organized which gave opportunity for self expression to the young people from the school. In addition to these organizations a class in Normal Training music was organized to give prospective teachers plans and training which would help them in introducing the work in their schools.

Following a year of work, encouragement and appreciation, it was arranged that a girls' quartet should be sent to the All State Music Contest held at Emporia. There was much doubt on the part of the people of the town whether the trip would justify their effort on account of its distance and the expense attached to it; but they swept aside

all doubt and went. Accompanying the girls were two members of the School Board and their wives and their supervisor. The girls were first in the contest, and that fact, together with the quality of work in the contest itself, proving what other communities were doing, completely educated the Board to the place of music in the school program.

Needless to say, the accomplishments of the next year were greatly increased as a result of a united community working toward a common purpose. Three girls were sent to sing in the Southwestern Chorus at Tulsa, Oklahoma, during the meeting of the Southwestern Division of the National Music Conference. Later the whole community worked to send seventeen girls to the state contest, comprising two groups—a girls' quartet and a girls' glee club. They, again, were successful in winning places in both groups.

The community, somewhat astonished at its ability but not yet realizing its strength, began to plan for a still larger program. The school purchased some very necessary instruments for the orchestra and these, supplemented by new instruments which the pupils themselves bought, many of them with money obtained by their own efforts, increased the orchestra to twenty-four pieces. As a result thirty-one young people were sent to the state contest. The high school had a total enrollment of seventy-five pupils so nearly half of the entire high school was in attendance at the contest. To provide for the expenses of the trip \$700 was raised within two weeks' time of the contest. There were three groups represented—a girls' chorus, an orchestra and a girls' quartet. Again, and for the third time, they placed in all events, competing with one hundred and nine other schools. Though only a small C class school, isolated from larger centers of instruction and wholly dependent upon its own initiative to gain its inspirational background, it was superseded in the contest only by the schools of Emporia, Sterling, Ottawa and Kansas City.

This achievement was the result of a fine cooperative spirit which was developed between the community and the school. The determination to excel was carried over into nearly every depart-

*The program described in this article was conducted under the leadership of Miss Josephine Kacklev, who has become a member of the staff of the P.R.A.A.

ment of the school. For the first time, the school entered the All State Scholarship Contest last spring and was successful in placing in four events. The pupils returned home not to rest upon their laurels but to plan a larger program of work not only in their music but in every phase and activity of their school life. This, today, is being carried through to fulfillment.

Furthermore, the effort of the young people is contributing directly to their community life. They are playing and performing in other organizations besides those of the school, and this will tie them to the community after school life is passed and give them a basis for greater appreciation throughout life.

The mothers of the community have organized a Woman's Chorus which is the pride of the community. Out of their intense interest and their satisfaction born of self expression comes a self respect which is manifested by their daring to do and willingness to grow.

The growth in community spirit has been an example to many

other communities about Lakin, who are beginning to attempt larger things for themselves.



LOUISVILLE'S TOY ORCHESTRA



A UKULELE LESSON AT LEWIS CARROLL PLAYGROUNDS, OAK PARK, ILLINOIS

Dramatics in the Summer Camp

By

RUTH ANN FROOME

"Come on with that hammer, Jackie."

"Where are all the lanterns?"

"Stevie, for heaven's sake, hold this ladder."

"Pull those ropes down there, somebody."

No, this is not a construction gang at work, nor is it a crew of wreckers. It is a group of girls setting the stage in an open-air theater in a summer camp.

No task is too low or menial for a girl to perform in order that the evening's program may be presented. Climbing trees, cutting wood, rolling logs, none of these tasks hold any terror for the camper who is working in an out-door theater! The instinct for creative expression which is so strong in all of us finds ample outlet in the dramatic productions of summer camps. Amateur theatricals at their best require a good many make-shifts to insure the proper effects, but the possibility for real invention is even greater when drama is produced in camp. Nothing taxes more the ingenuity of the director and the temperament of the performers.

"Miss Froome, can't we have a gauze curtain for our fairyland scene tonight?" once came the request of an ambitious stage manager three or four hours before the fairies were scheduled to appear.

Such earnest desires for reality in the productions cannot be overlooked, and it was decided at once that we should have the gauze curtain. Now, if this were to be done on any modern stage a stage-hand would simply be instructed to lower the gauze curtain from the fly gallery at the psychological moment, but not so in the case of a theater which is nothing more than a plot of level ground with trees conveniently arranged to set it off from the rest of the landscape. The only thing to do was to make a gauze curtain, and this we set out to do.

Twelve yards of common cheese-cloth were procured from the general store of the nearby town, and the committee set to work. By an unusual stroke of good luck a fifteen-foot bamboo fishing pole was found, and this, with some heavy cord and two trees, was used as the frame for the curtain. The cheese-cloth was cut into four strips, seamed, and hung on the fishing rod which,

in the meantime, had been fastened to the trees about nine feet above the ground.

There was the curtain, well enough, but it seemed to lack the ethereal element necessary to a scene in fairy-land. The curtain needed to be blended into its surroundings, as it were. Hatchets were brought out and soon enough green branches were cut to form an arch above the curtain, and with the help of a bushel or so of roses, the effect was all that could be desired.

Lights were the next problem. There would be no switch for the electrician to pull in full confidence that the "ambers, the blues and the violets" would add the finishing touch. A discerning group of the girls discovered a supply of Japanese lanterns which had been used the year before in a festival. These were strung on wires behind the curtain and all was in readiness for the performance.

"Titania and Oberon, and all the fairies," called the dramatic councillor. "Take your places for the first scene." A hasty rehearsal was conducted, perhaps it was the only one, for it was seldom that the entire cast could be brought together more than once before the actual presentation.

Just before dark the actors began to scurry about getting into their costumes. "Where's the long white robe?" "Oh, Peg wore it last night when she was Cinderella; ask her." "Who will make me a crown? I can't be a fairy king without a crown." "Will these scarfs do for wings? They're all we could find in the costume box."

The costume box! What a wealth of treasure it contains! Anything and everything from a grizzly bear skin (brown canton flannel), to the complete attire for a Queen of Sheba! A costume box, like Topsy, "just grows". It is the sum-total of all the costumes that have been used in the camp for the last five years or more, plus any contributions unknowingly made by forgetful campers. And then the girls, if they know anything at all about camp, always bring something of this sort with them, so the question of what the characters shall wear usually takes care of itself.

Then the make-up! Somehow it always adds just the necessary professional touch if the actors are "made-up." For the director to appear with

a few sticks of grease paint and with powder and cold cream gives the occasion a certain dignity. A few hasty lines about the eyes, plenty of rouge and a touch of the lip-stick and the young performer is ready to tread the boards with the true spirit of a Sarah Bernhardt or a John Drew.

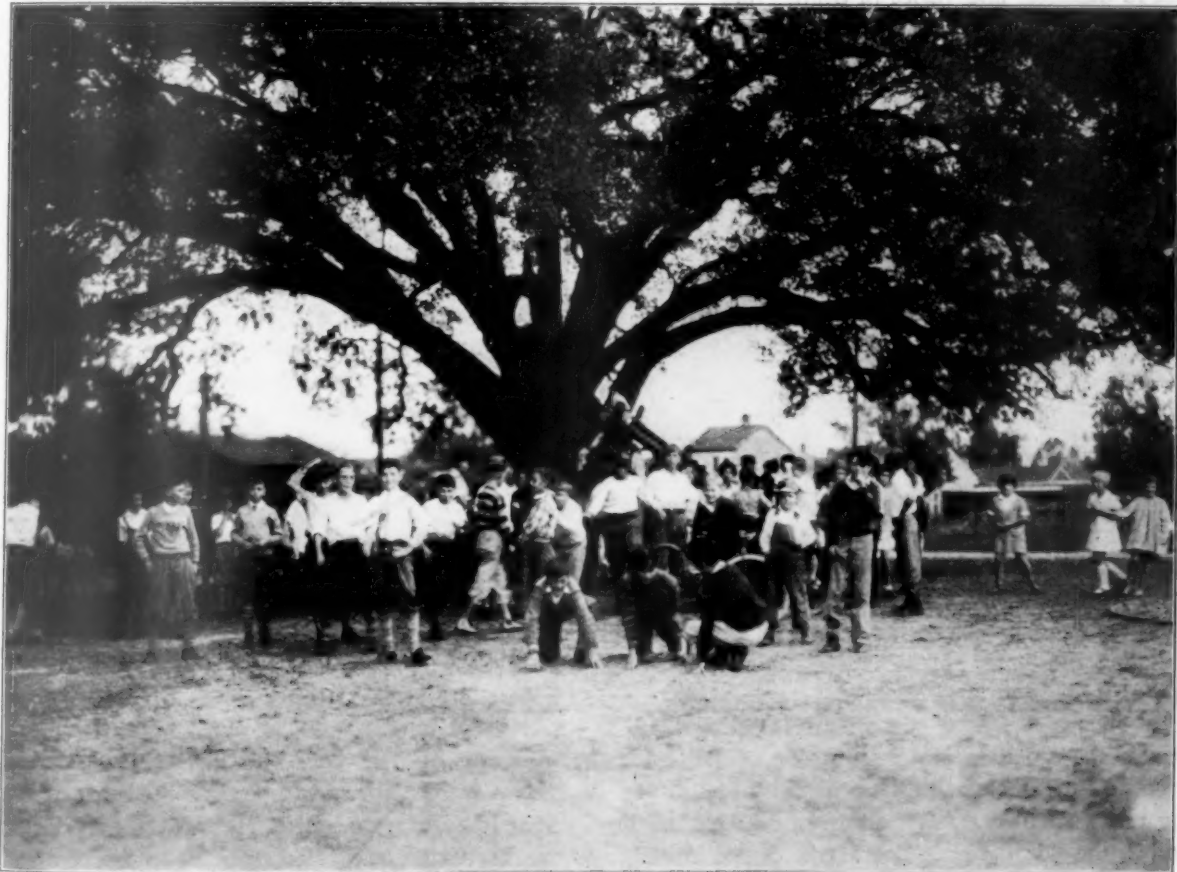
As for the fairy-land, the performance was all that and more than had been expected. The campers sat about the camp-fire, the lanterns were lighted and King Oberon and Queen Titania appeared in regal glory. This production, given at the end of a camp period, was in the nature of a ceremonial. Lines from Noyes' *Sherwood* had been adapted to bring out the significance of the camp spirit.

"Ho, my Merry Men," called Robin Hood from the Forest of Arden, and the foresters settled down, or were stirred up, to participate in a series of "stunts". In such programs each camper is given a chance for self-expression. Tumbling, archery, folk-dancing and even horsemanship were exhibited as the "feats of skill" of the Merry Men. Programs which give opportunity for many of the

girls to take part are always to be preferred to those which make use of only a few "stars."

Historic legends, biblical stories, Greek myths and even modern stories which have dramatic interest, may be used as themes for playlets and pageants. "We are going to meet some of the women of the Bible," announced the camp executive at a Sunday morning religious service. Esther, Rachel, Ruth and Naomi, Rebecca and others were presented in characteristic tableaux while the accompanying verses from the Bible were read by girls "behind the scenes."

A dramatic councillor in a camp must first of all enjoy her work. She must have a store of literary and historical material from which to draw, but she need not depend entirely on herself for this. The girls will have many valuable suggestions, too many at times, in fact, so that the director will wonder how she can keep them within the range of the practical and possible. Just to keep a step or two ahead of the girls in her group is a necessary factor. Above all, the dramatic councillor must have ingenuity.



A NEW PLAYGROUND IN SAVANNAH, GEORGIA, SHOWING ONE OF ITS MOST ATTRACTIVE FEATURES, A SPREADING OAK TREE

Elementary Swimming Instruction in Wading Pools

By

JOHN C. HENDERSON

Supervisor of Playground and Community Center Activities, Department of Playground and Recreation, Los Angeles, California

Wading pools are always a source of great joy to youthful playground patrons; they may also be made to serve the purpose of elementary swimming instruction.

At the playground in the Sawtelle district of Los Angeles, there was such a demand for instruction in swimming that E. H. Hale, Chief Director of the playground, decided to experiment with the wading pool as an instruction center. The Sawtelle playground wading pool is 40 feet in diameter and varies in depth from two to twenty-four inches. During the last summer 366 children between the ages of four and thirteen were actually taught to swim in this shallow pool. Mr. Hale gave a series of seven lessons which sufficed, in most cases, to teach the child to swim across the pool. The average class contained about twenty-five youngsters, but as many as fifty-seven were accommodated on some occasions.

Acquiring confidence was the keynote of the first lesson. The children were asked to form a circle by joining hands, then to lie flat on the stomach in the water facing towards the center with hands on the bottom of the pool. The next step was to duck the heads completely under the water. (A few had to hold their noses the first few times.) This was followed by ducking under and opening the eyes under water looking at the fingers. In the second lesson the attempt was made to strengthen the confidence of the child and give a quick review of the first lesson. Then exhaling the water through the nose was taught and also the "jelly-fish float."

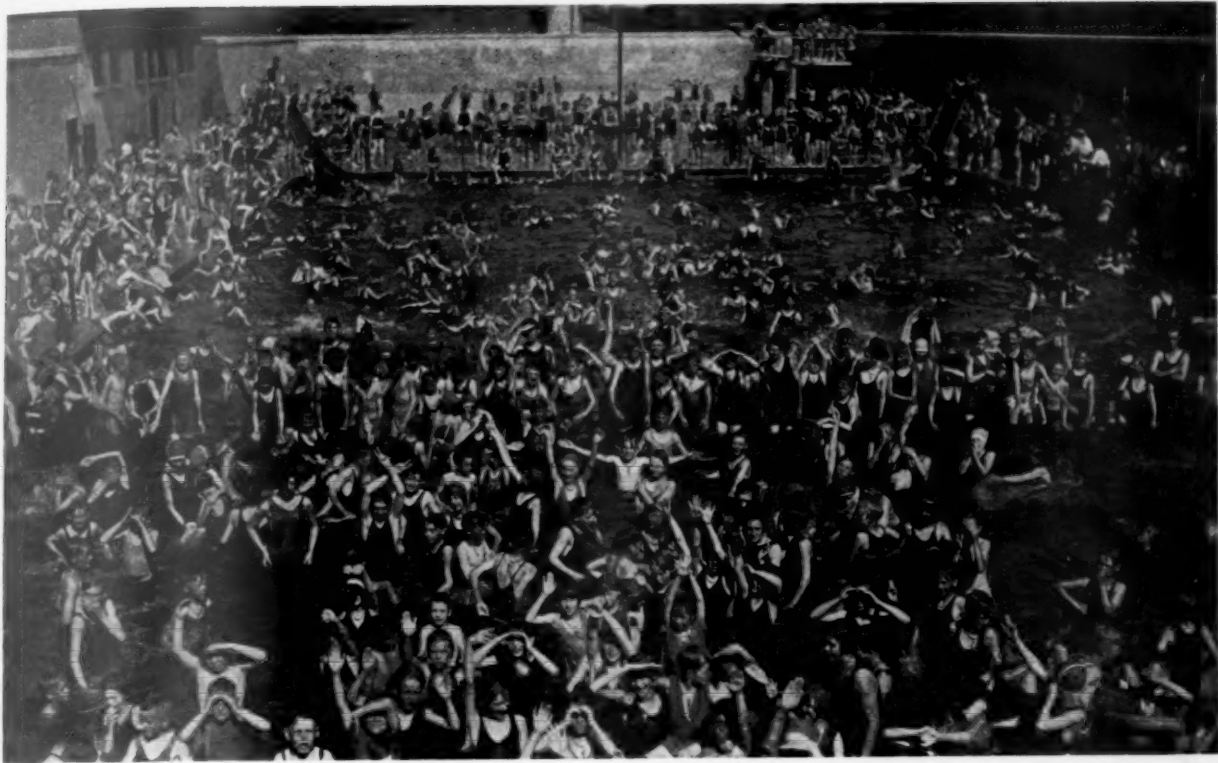
In the third lesson the attempt was made to arouse the ambition and expectation of the children, to thrill them with the possibility of becoming real swimmers. After a review of Lessons 1 and 2, the "dead man's float" was demonstrated. Lesson 4 began to emphasize the mechanics of swimming and was devoted to reviews and to the

"flutter kick." Lesson 5 was devoted to the mechanics of swimming combining the "flutter kick" with the "dead man's float." It also contained land drills on arm strokes. In the sixth lesson many children actually accomplished swimming. The arm stroke, the "flutter kick" and the "dead man's float" were combined, then the stroke and kick without the float, keeping the head up. The seventh lesson was devoted to testing of the accomplishments and to the recognition of those who were actually able to cross the pool.

As many of the children entered were quite young, much verbal encouragement was required on the part of the director, and his ingenuity was taxed in making comparisons of the various elements in swimming with other mechanical processes which would appeal to the child's imagination. The "flutter kick" for example was compared to the action of the stern paddle wheel of a river steam boat, the arm stroke to the action of an old Dutch wind mill. The incongruity of combining the action of a steam boat and a Dutch wind mill did not seem to occur to the children. Following each instruction period was a "free play and splash period" in the pool which contributed greatly to the success of the program.

On the whole the experiment proved so satisfactory that next summer elementary swimming instruction will be given at all playground wading pools, supplemented by the "carry-over" campaign in the regular pools.

At the 4-H Club Camp.—On June 22nd Mrs. Herbert Hoover spoke in Washington before a gathering of 4-H boys and girls club representatives who camped for a week in the heart of the city of Washington. Mrs. Hoover, whose address was broadcast, presented trophies to the boy and girl considered to have done the most outstanding work during the past year.



JOHN DEERE WEBBER MEMORIAL BATHS, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Recreation in Relation to Work

Play and recreation are important for the "after work" hours, but they are important for the work hours as well and for the hours spent in going to and from work and also for the sleeping hours.

Man's life is like a lake with the waters flowing now into recreation, then into work, then into sleep. There are no watertight compartments. What affects one part of the life affects all. Raise the level of one part and you raise the level of all.

Three hours of music, swimming, tennis, drama, baseball in the evening hours—are only three hours by the clock but these three hours "after work" of spare time may be what gives color, tone, vitality to all the other hours.

And recreation cannot be completely satisfying except as it has thus pervasive quality. After all the work hours and the hours going to work, and returning home, the noon hour, the washing up from work, the thinking about work before and after, mean that perhaps the average amount of time principally occupied by work thoughts is not

less than ten hours a day.

Sleeping, dressing, undressing, shaving, powdering one's nose, the little essential tasks, involve perhaps nine hours a day and we must remember that work for many dominates the subconscious mind during much of this time.

Meals morning and night take perhaps an hour and thirty minutes. At most the time left is not more than four hours and thirty minutes. And find it!

From seven to ten P. M., or perhaps eleven P. M., three or four hours at a stretch, is really the spare time period of the average day and many men are frequently too tired during this period for anything more than restful recreation.

Remember, too, that children's problems, church, parent-teachers associations, civic organizations, make many demands upon these evening hours. Much of this time, however, is semi-recreation time.

Recreation must be vital enough to affect the subconscious mind to carry over into the atmosphere and the attitude in work, meals and sleep, to give life the sense of well-being if living is to be kept from becoming routine.

HOWARD BRAUCHER.

Are We Carrying the Play Idea Too Far?

A SYMPOSIUM

The following comment has reached the P. R. A. A.:

"Often I think we are carrying the play idea too far. It seems to me that most of the young people today have no idea that they are a unit in this big world to carry on a great work or have high ideals. Usually speaking it is, 'Get out of as much work as possible' and rush to the automobile and the foot ball field and the card table. The young people of today in all classes seem to be living very selfish lives, breaking the laws and sticking out their tongues at those who don't."

In response to this Joseph Lee has said:

"I do not think that most boys play too much baseball or other hard games. A few do, but they are the exceptions. I think there are far more who do not play enough and do not get a chance to, and bridge and the automobile are among the reasons.

"I also think you are right in what is omitted, namely, a sense of duty, and what is the same thing, a feeling of having a place in the world which they should fill, or having the duty of finding one and filling it. I think good team games, if properly handled and not carried on too long, tend to develop the sense of loyalty and of being a good sport, taking hard knocks and defeat when they come and still playing the game.

"Also I think that the art, drama and music we are teaching are awfully important for young people at the age of coming out, capable of building up a real life for them and incidentally (I regard it as incidental, not as the first object) in keeping them straight and out of many kinds of mischief and disaster."

From a number of other workers in the recreation movement have come the following letters:

"In the early days there was opportunity for boys and girls to work with their fathers and mothers on common tasks. The farmer boy from early age worked side by side with his father carrying a heavier load each year until at a comparatively early age he was working almost as hard as any hired man. The girl in the farm home helped not only in preparing the meals and doing the house work, but in feeding the chickens, caring for the milk, churning, and often with outside work. In the small blacksmith's shop, and in

the small factories, boys of the family grew up working side by side with their father. In the villages and smaller towns, before the automobile took the place of the horse and carriage, boys had a large responsibility in caring for the horses. Often too in the old days the family kept a cow and the responsibility for milking the cow and taking her from and to pasture fell upon the boy of the household. All of these tasks have been growing fewer and fewer.

"Today there are certain things which the boy in the family can do in looking after the car. Sometimes there is wood to be sawed for the fireplace; there are ashes to be carried out from the furnace; the furnace itself requires some care. If the boy is handy with tools, he can do certain things in making repairs around the house. Yet the sum total of the work which the modern boy can do to advantage is not nearly as great as formerly. It is the responsibility of all those who care for the future of boys and girls to try to help them to have normal opportunities for work, particularly for working with their parents and with others who have a concern for their welfare. However, with the growth of our modern cities it is not easy for the boys and girls to have as much of their outdoor play life in the back yards and the vacant lots as it was in former years. Twenty-five years ago, before the coming of the automobile, the children made very large use of the roads and streets. Today they cannot do so with safety. Therefore, it is very clear that those who care for the children of today must provide some substitute for the streets and for the vacant lots of twenty-five years ago.

"Of course we must do all that we can to develop what chances there are for back yard play and for home play indoors, but do as much as we can, there is still need for community provision of space and also under modern conditions, with the greater congestion, there is an even greater need for the provision of leadership.

"Those who have worked most closely with the boys who are going to our reformatories are very clear in their opinions that one of the greatest difficulties is the association with bad companions in the time that is left free for play. Those who have studied our reformatories and their prob-

lems most deeply, all urge the provision of adequate leadership for training boys and girls in the right kind of activities for whatever time they might have free for recreation. Under modern conditions it is particularly important that boys and girls should see that there are a great many things that could be done which give a thoroughly good time and which do not cost much. Much of our crime comes because boys and girls all feel that automobiles and other more costly things are essential for a good time.

"At the present time the handcraft activities of the playground are serving a very useful purpose in giving many boys and girls a chance to make things and to form habits of working on things which interest them. Often the tools are not available in the modern homes, and sometimes there is no one who will encourage the modern boy in making things. It is therefore extremely valuable to help our boys in making miniature aircraft, kites, water wheels, wagons, pushmobiles, toys for younger children. The boy who has developed skill in making things with his hands, who has become ready to work for hours to have a thing just right, is much more apt to be a good worker later in life. Unfortunately many of our modern homes do not have provision for places where boys can work with tools. There is no question that the normal boy does want to have opportunity sometimes to make the things which interest him, and this opportunity the playgrounds and recreation centers are increasingly giving.

"There is no question as to the importance of developing right work habits among the boys and girls. The great difficulty at the present time is that careful studies have shown that about forty-four per cent of our city boys and girls who are not given playgrounds spend much of their leisure time in simply idling about, loafing, in impassive watching what other people are doing. Other things being equal, the boys and girls who form the habit of playing hard in such free time as they have are much more apt to become useful citizens with right habits of work."

"We wish you would visit playgrounds in a number of cities and observe the influence the playgrounds seem to be having on the children. We wish you would also talk with policemen, probation officers, juvenile court judges, and ask them what has been their experience as to the value of playgrounds.

"Recently there was compiled in a pamphlet entitled, *Children's Play and Juvenile Delinquency*, published by the P. R. A. A., some of the testi-

mony of judges, probation officers, social workers and others who come into daily contact with juvenile delinquents and with the conditions that make for delinquency and crime. Overwhelmingly, these impartial witnesses, who have no special object in praising playgrounds, declare for their strong character building value. You will be interested in noting the standing of the list of persons who urge the importance of playgrounds for good citizenship.

"Of course if you have in mind playgrounds without leaders, we will agree with you heartily that they are a menace, just as a school would be without a teacher. However, in the eight hundred and fifteen communities, the public recreation organizations of which are affiliated with the Association, the playgrounds have leaders. In fact, one of the principal tasks of the Association is to educate the public to the importance of leadership and to help train leaders for organized recreation.

"Educators are agreed that playgrounds train children in habits important in work as well as play. Some of the character traits inculcated are aggressiveness, ambition, courage, loyalty, leadership, perseverance, initiative and motor control, according to Miss Ethel Perrin of the American Child Health Association.

"Basketry, carpentry, sewing, constructive and handcraft work of all kinds are a part of the regular playground program in hundreds of cities. You see, children are being taught to work as well as to play.

"The Association agrees with you in deploring the tendency merely to watch games. We are gratified to see a steady increase in the number of those participating in play, since we know that such activity is good for physical, mental and moral well being."

"The question you raise is one in which fathers, mothers, educators, and people who are thoughtful about public questions, are interested. I wish I might have the opportunity to talk with you about this matter. There are so many ways, and fundamental ways, too, in which I agree with you that I should like to see if we really do not have much conviction in common, both as to the importance of work and the importance of play.

"We recreation workers, in our efforts to promote wholesome opportunities for play, do not have in mind, I feel certain, the kind of things you are thinking about when you object to demoralizing play. We, no more than you, are in favor of a pleasure mad community or nation. The excesses of some of our people in the pur-

suit of excitement and thrill and pleasure are demoralizing. It is our conviction that in these days of industrial organization, labor saving devices, power machinery, subdivision of labor, of Henry Ford and Thomas Edison, there is bound to be a great deal of leisure time and that a real service can be rendered to the community by providing opportunity for wholesome use of this leisure instead of allowing the commercial amusement business groups to exploit this leisure all too frequently in demoralizing ways. If we can provide for our men and our women who are workers, opportunity for wholesome things in their leisure—for athletics, for music, for drama, for the pursuit of their hobbies—we shall be helping, shall we not, to wean them from the pursuit of thrill and excitement. It is one of the chief of our ambitions to give men and women a chance, not to sit in the grandstand and cheer or to sit in the theatre and be stimulated and thrilled but to participate in the activities with all this can mean for developing wholesome satisfaction.

"Because it is our business to emphasize this side of life, this importance of a reasonable amount of play and recreation, it must not be assumed that the Playground and Recreation Association of America, its members, its board members or its staff, does not whole-heartedly also believe in work, both because we need work to produce things which we need and also because work itself carried out under proper conditions is a fine, wholesome, character-building activity.

"We do, however, want to plead with you to recognize that there is another side to it and that workers not only will but should have wholesome play and recreation in their lives after their work day is over.

"The case for children, too, is similar. Children must do their school work and they should have more opportunities for work around the home, chores, etc. and at suitable ages, opportunity for wage-earning work, either in connection with their school or after their schooling is over. Children, too, need play. It is natural and inevitable that they should play and in our modern life it seems to be increasingly difficult both to find good chores and other work for them to do and also to find place and wholesome opportunity for their play. We know that for children to play in the street with its physical hazards and its moral hazards, to loaf and idle in the streets and gutters is not

wholesome and that well directed play activity which gives opportunity for whole-hearted, zestful effort for play activity is worth while as a part of the life of a child.

"As a matter of interest, one of the alienists who had to do with the crime of Leopold and Loeb said that the thing these boys had needed was more group play; that apparently they had never joined in any team games or sports; that they had always played individualistic games and had never had the discipline which comes from learning how as a member of a team you must think in terms of other people and not simply in terms of the greatest amount of thrill for yourself. Very likely, too, Leopold and Loeb should have had work, but I believe, too, that there would have been, as this psychologist has said, a real character lesson for them if they had been encouraged to participate in team games.

"I hope you will appreciate that this letter is not meant to be argumentative. The point of view which you express is so sound that I wish to agree with it. I do wish, however, to indicate my conviction that 'all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy' and that there should be also opportunity for the right kind of play and recreation for both boys and girls and for young and old."

Elmira's Mystery Hike.—Leaving their playgrounds under "sealed orders" one July day, hundreds of Elmira children gathered at Hoffman Park for an all-day celebration. During the morning the boys competed in athletic contests while many other children were entertained with storytelling. Large posters depicting nature and its beauty were placed on trees about the park to call attention to the celebration of Nature Week, of which the mystery hike was a part.

At noon came the picnic lunch, which was followed during the afternoon by a program of entertainment supplied by the children of three playgrounds. The Hoffman Park Toy Symphony Orchestra opened the program with *The Star Spangled Banner* and furnished selections during the afternoon. Children from the West Side playground presented a one-act play, *Sleeping Beauty*, while *The Magic Path* by Elizabeth Hanley was given by the children of Hoffman Park. Spaulding Playground presented *The Bird with the Broken Wing*.

The Playground Movement in Palestine

By

LILLIAN FOX

Among the many Western institutions and innovations that have penetrated the Near East since the War, the most recent is the recreational and playground movement in Palestine. This little country now holds the only organized playground in the half circle of the Mediterranean Sea from Syria to Morocco. In 1925, Mrs. Bertha Guggenheimer, on a visit to the Holy Land to attend the formal opening of the Hebrew University, conceived the plan of organizing a playground within or near the Old City of Jerusalem. Especially interested in child play on her travels through the country, she found that among some of the Jewish children such activities as outings, processions, football, and boy and girl scout work were organized. But these play activities were inadequate, occasional, and restricted to a minority. Mrs. Guggenheimer found the greatest deprivations in the Old City, where the quarters are uninhabitable, overcrowded and sunless. In Palestine as yet no adequate child labor laws are enforced and no system of compulsory education operates. The result is that throughout the Near East the children of the poor are overworked, prematurely old and over-burdened with responsibility. After a thorough investigation it was determined that the first playground in Palestine should be near the Old City where the need was greatest.

With the opening of the first playground many questions arose. Would the play instinct of the "old young" child revive and assert itself in free spaces and with play facilities? Would the children come of their own accord, or would it be necessary to educate the parents first and urge them to send their children? Would the proper spirit and good fellowship prevail? Would fraternity or antagonism prevail in this non-sectarian playground, the meeting place of many diverse racial and religious elements? As a step in the right direction, it was thought advisable to form a playground committee with representation from each of the various groups and interests in Jerusalem. This resulted in a committee, non-sectarian, it is true, but unwieldy and partisan. This first attempt at cooperative direction was a complete failure.

In the autumn of 1926, under the direction of

a trained American worker, the playground was reestablished at Zion Hill, just outside the gate of the Old City. Here in spacious grounds is laid out fine play equipment, such as see-saws, swings, slides and sandboxes; shower rooms and a trellised shelter have been built. Good drinking water, too, is available through sanitary dispensers, which is very important in a country where much of the water is polluted and the supply limited. The playground is in charge of two play leaders and an athletic director.

The types of children attending are mixed and diverse, Jewish, Arab and Christian, the latter mainly Armenian. The Sephardi children of Spanish Jewish descent came first, full of the spirit of play and fun. The child of Ashkenazi parentage from eastern Europe, mainly Poland, was more reluctant to enter. With fixed traditions and a somber nature as his heritage, this little "cheder" or studious boy, wearing a round flat hat, long caftan and corkscrew side curls, anemic and physically unfit, has forgotten how to play. The playground was all right for girls, thought these Ashkenazi boys disdainfully, but certainly beneath their dignity. At first they would pass by as though by accident, then they would peep in through the wire fence. Finally, they summoned courage to enter and just stood about watching, but lacking initiative and physical courage to participate in the activities. Later, the Arab and Armenian children came. It was very difficult to manage these undisciplined, crude youngsters, some with vicious manners, who would monopolize the various apparatus with no respect for the rights of others.

The attitude of the parents, too, is gradually changing, even though they do not generally comprehend the importance of play in the character molding of a child. Parents are solicited and urged to send their children. The first adult and parents' party held September, 1928, was a success. Five hundred children took part in games, drills and playlets.

During the school term the playground is open daily from three to six o'clock except Friday, but Saturdays and during vacation it is open the greater part of the day. On week day mornings

the grounds are used by government and Hebrew schools for athletics.

The program at the playground consists of apparatus activity, which is very popular, games, handicrafts, dramatics, songs and stories. At the beginning there was very little apparatus, most of which had to be imported, and very little other material. Stories are being translated into Hebrew from other languages or are improvised, and some story books in Hebrew published in Germany are obtainable in Palestine.

The handicrafts, which include carpentry, basketry, weaving, embroidery and modeling, are making excellent headway. Among the older children team games as volley ball, hand ball, and basketball are popular and the young ones enjoy ring games combined with singing. The chief difficulty is encountered in dramatics and storytelling, because of the want of a common language. No common language is recognized at the Zion Hill playground and the leaders converse with the child in his native tongue. This method is workable where individual attention and instruction is possible, but presents a problem in group work.

In the East, because of unsanitary conditions and untold poverty, skin and eye diseases are rampant. To combat and subdue these diseases, the Hadassah Medical Organization, established and financed by the Women's Zionist Organization of America, is working in conjunction with the playground authorities. Upon registration each child undergoes a careful physical examination by specialists before receiving a card entitling him to enter the playground. The initial examination is followed by quarterly examinations and no child infected with a disease is permitted on the grounds. Health inspection, in charge of a Hadassah Social Welfare nurse, who treats minor bruises and sores, is a daily procedure. This nurse also gives instruction in hygiene to the girls while they take their showers. The district nurse also serves as a propagandist for the playground, for wherever she goes she spreads the gospel of play and health.

After less than three years' activity the registration has reached the six hundred mark with an average daily attendance of 125 children. On Sabbaths and festivals the attendance exceeds 250, as the children come from greater distances. The records show the attendance to be 55 per

cent Jewish and 45 per cent non-Jewish, mainly Moslems.

After the first three years' experience the following major results may be noted:

1. Children are playing who never played before.
2. The youngsters have been inculcated with habits of personal cleanliness.
3. Barriers of economic caste, race and sex are gradually being broken down.
4. As a by product of the movement, young native women are receiving practical training as recreation leaders at the playground.

Mrs. Guggenheimer unfortunately did not live to see the successful functioning of the playground as a movement in Palestine, but this woman of foresight and understanding had enough confidence in its future to leave a bequest of \$100,000 for the maintenance of Zion Hill playground and other establishments.

Two new playgrounds are in prospect of immediate establishment, one in Tel Aviv, the all Jewish city of Palestine, and a second in Jerusalem. A good beginning has been made, and with adequate funds and the further publication of material for games, stories and dramatics in the native tongues, the playground work can be extended in Palestine to many fields of activity. Play activities are needed in all the districts of Palestine, for only through the element of play as carried out in a recreation center can the youth be given a fair start along life's highway.



Louisville, Kentucky.

A BURNING QUESTION, "IS IT THROUGH?"

Educational Athletics— A School Subject

By

JAMES EDWARD ROGERS,
*Director, National Physical Education Service,
and President, Department of School Health
and Physical Education, National
Education Association*

Are we getting the most out of our school athletics? Are they educational or are they spectacular? Are they for the benefit of the student body or for exhibition for the town fans? Are we developing bleacherites? Is our national disease spectatoritis?

School athletics are costing much money. Millions are being spent on athletic fields, stadia, playgrounds, gymnasias and basketball arenas. A town of 20,000 recently built a high school stadium at a cost of \$200,000, with a seating capacity of 10,000. A city of 400,000 recently built a stadium at a cost of \$15,000 with a seating capacity of 20,000. Sixteen thousand people nightly for a week sat and watched high school boys play in a state basketball tournament. School athletics are for good or for evil. No other school subject causes a series of worries, troubles, heartaches and upheavals to the school administrator so much as does athletics. They cause intense school rivalries and even fights; student unrest and upheavals, and stir town folks and parents to interfere.

If properly controlled and managed, school athletics are full of educational values. No subject in the curriculum can match it for its health and character building power. Nothing is wrong with athletics per se. They are good in themselves. The trouble arises from their defective control and management. It is a matter of administration.

School athletics must be treated by the educational authorities as a regular school subject and as part of a job of administration. It is not an extra-curricular subject but a fundamental part of education! If education is preparation for life, it must be administered by the superintendent and principal as a definite part of the school curriculum for its educational values.

Thirty years ago school authorities *opposed* athletics and left them entirely for the students to handle alone. Twenty years ago they *tolerated* athletics and permitted a few faculty members to take part.

Ten years ago they *cooperated*. And so we

have today forty-two states with high school athletic federations. However, the final step, that of administration directly by the school authorities, must be taken. In some states, such as New York and Maryland, this is being done. In Detroit, Buffalo, and other cities they are being directly handled by the physical education department.

High school teams must cease to be town teams to bring glory upon the Chamber of Commerce and advertisement for the town. The interference of the downtown strategy boards usually located at the cigar stands and pool rooms must be stopped. The ardent alumni who want to win at any cost must be checked. (Yes, we must win if possible but not at the cost of the health of the boy nor the violation of the rules of amateurism and the code of the sportsman.)

At all times the integrity of the school and the education of the students must be uppermost.

Leisure an Economic Aid

President Hoover's committee on recent economic changes made its report on Wednesday, May 15th, 1929.

"During the period covered by the survey the trend toward increased leisure received considerable impetus," the committee said. "The work week was shortened in the factory by better planning and modern machinery, and in the home by the increased use of time and labor saving appliances."

The increased rate of production and consumption of products has been found to be closely related to the consumption of leisure time. During the post war period the conception of leisure as "consumable" began to be realized upon in business in a practical way and on a large scale.

"It began to be recognized not only that leisure is 'consumable,' but the people cannot 'consume' leisure without consuming goods and services and that leisure which results from an increasing man-hour productivity helps to create new needs and new and broader markets."

Prosperity, in other words, is dependent upon leisure time that will permit the consumption of luxuries and the use of what is characterized as "optional purchases."

LOUISVILLE PREPARES FOR T



CLEAN PETS FOR THE SHOW



THE HOLLOW TR



THEY MADE A WHOLE CITY DURING THE SUMMER



"LET US CROO

R THE RECREATION CONGRESS



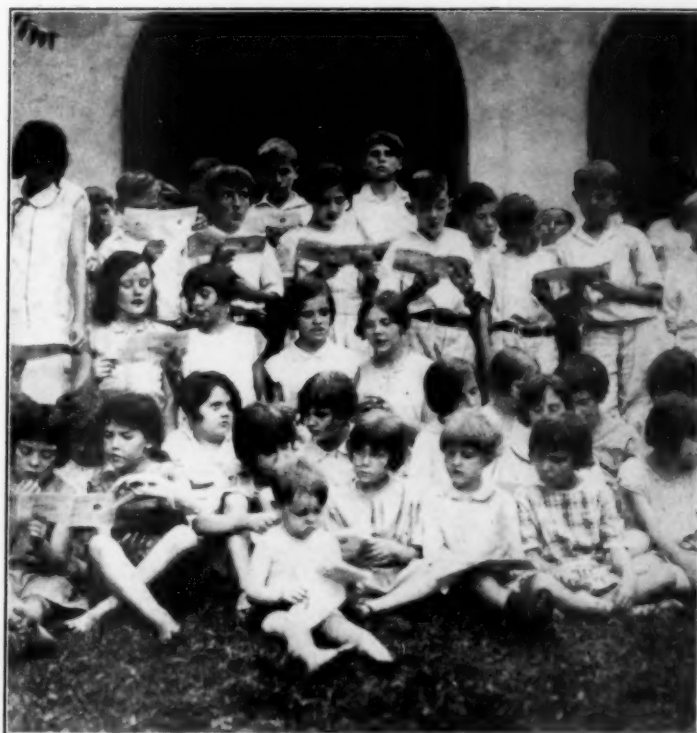
HOLLOW TREE PLAYHOUSE



AN EXCITING MOMENT IN THE HORSE SHOE FINALS



"US COON FOR YOU"



THE SONG HOUR

A Municipal Athletic Commission in Louisville

Mayor Harrison of Louisville, Kentucky, has appointed a municipal athletic commission. The Board of Park Commissioners made this commission possible by putting all athletics under the direction of the Board of Recreation and by approving the constitution and by-laws of a municipal athletic commission as outlined by the director.

The constitution calls for the appointment of five men for periods from one to five years. The director of recreation, according to the constitution, is always the executive secretary. The object of the commission is to foster, organize and regulate competitive athletics for the city of Louisville. The ideals back of the formation of the commission are expressed as follows in the foreword of the constitution.

"Enduring clubs and long-lived leagues are indispensable to the stability of organized athletics.

"The spirit that animates these rules is public spirit; for athletics must be organized and conducted in the public interest or else lose its support. This means that the machinery or organization must work smoothly so that the public will not be annoyed by controversies, which spoil sport and debase the game. It is for this reason that

the Municipal Athletic Commission was created.

"The good of organized athletics requires that decisions of the Commission be final. The sportsmanship which compels a player to yield to an official's decision has become the acid test of conduct, not only of players, but for club and league officials.

"The player recognizes himself as a public servant and as such he gives to the American people a pledge of conformity to high standards of personal conduct, of fair play and good sportsmanship. Club and league officials accept the same high standard and readily admit their obligation to set a good example to their players.

"The boy in the bleachers and on the side lines is in school even if he does not realize it. The heroes of sport are his teachers. By them his ideals of sport are powerfully affected. The boy will carry into life the standards he accepts. As the game is played, so the life of the nation will be lived.

"Nothing is good enough for organized athletics that is not good enough for America."

Kai Hendriksen of Copenhagen, Denmark, speaking on "Regional Planning in Europe" at a meeting held in the Russell Sage Building recently, told of an attempt to secure legislation in Denmark requiring that before permission is given to subdivide, a certain part of the land be set aside for a public park or that an amount equivalent in value be paid.



PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AT ORLO VISTA SCHOOL, FLORIDA, IS HOME-MADE

At Orlo Vista, Florida

Orlo Vista, Florida, is a typical suburban community five miles west of Orlando. Most of the people are employed in Orlando and the local centers are the church and the school. The school, which has four rooms, enrolls about 150 pupils, all of whom are eager for active games and sports. In the summer of 1928, during an enforced vacation, J. E. Waggoner, principal of the school, worked on the project of equipping the school ground from the waste and scrap material lying about the community. As a result of his efforts the school now has two horizontal ladders of different heights, one 20' seat swing, two 14' swings, one 25' tire swing, two trapeze swings, one kiddie chute and equipment for traveling rings. In addition there are a full size basketball court and a diamond ball field. The court and apparatus are fully lighted for night use. The total cost for material for the apparatus, except the goals and the lighting, was less than \$25.00.

"The play-health program, as it is called," writes Mr. Waggoner, "is simple. In the first place no child is required to do any specific thing, but he *must do something*. No loafing in or about the building during play time is permitted. Every pupil over seven years of age is examined for heart and lungs. Only those who are termed weak are exempted. At the beginning of the year a set of health sheets was filled out. Once each month the pupils are given a simple test of their ability in such playground activities as running, jumping, chinning and throwing the basketball or diamond ball, and the results are checked



PRIMARY SECTION PLAYGROUND, ORLO VISTA, FLORIDA

against the figures given for the Philadelphia schools for each age period. In addition to this we have our athletic teams and here we claim the merit of training the mass rather than the select group. If one period is given over to the better players, when the next lineup is made the procedure is something like this—"All who did not have a chance to play this morning stand over here. Now, leaders, call on these first, then select anyone you please." In this way all have a chance, and, strange as it may seem, our teams cause a serious amount of trouble for many of the schools who are training for a winning team only.

"The children are playing their way to health without knowing they are doing it. The older ones watch their score sheets and weight sheets like hawks and demand a new trial on a bad showing."

Municipal Golf in Brooklyn

At the end of the first year's operation of the Dyker Beach Golf Course, maintained by the Department of Parks of the Borough of Brooklyn, 64,744 rounds of golf had been played. The receipts for the period for season permits, daily permits, concession fees and caddy permits were \$47,253. The cost of operation was approximately \$20,000, making a net profit to the city of \$27,000. During the 1928 season 1,260 season permits were issued at \$10.00 each. The fact that 1,450 season permits have already been issued for 1929 is an indication of the growing popularity of the course.

Twelve hundred sixty players with season permits during 1928 played 32,549 rounds of golf averaging about eighteen rounds to each permit. Players who preferred to pay \$1.00 at the course each time they played, were responsible for 32,195 rounds. Another interesting fact is that over 3,000 rounds were played during the months of December, January and February.

In addition to the eighteen hole course in Dyker Beach Park, the Park Department operates a miniature course consisting of nine putting greens for practicing for holing out and two cages for practicing driving. The fees for the use of these facilities is \$1.00 for a season permit.

Little Stories From the Playgrounds

I was supervisor of a playground in Bridgeport, Connecticut, the attendance of which was about 95 per cent Slavs, Polish and Russians. As you may imagine, the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play was not prevalent.

The spirit prevailing in the games was to win, irrespective of the tactics used in gaining the victory. As a part of the twilight program I conducted a volley ball league for young men seventeen to twenty-two years of age, but because of the ill feeling between the gangs comprising the various units, I was forced to officiate all the contests in order to prevent "slaughter." These contests attracted a large number of spectators and one evening near the close of the season, the game was nearly over and the darkness was interfering with my ability to determine whether the ball was out or in; a fast driven return was made and I asked one of the players as to whether the ball went in or out, and he stated that it was in the inside in spite of the fact that it was the deciding point of the contest, losing the game for his side. A man about fifty years of age, standing two or three feet from me, turned to his neighbor and said, "Well, what do you know about that! he has even got them telling the truth."—*F. S. Mathewson, The Union County Park Commission, Warinanco Park, Elizabeth, N. J.*

Hans Hart of the steel district of south Chicago had an accident at the age of four resulting in paralysis of the lower limbs. He had to walk on crutches, having hardly enough strength in his spindly legs to hold him up on the swing forward. When the Junior Olympics was sponsored by Rotary International in 1924 for boys under sixteen, Hans was fifteen years old. The contest was open to boys of the world. Each Rotary Club was designated as the official body that ran off the contest and turned in the results to the International office of Rotary in Chicago. There was a large turnout of boys in Chicago. One of the events was the pull-up or chinning the bar. Now Hans had an overwhelming desire to take an active part in athletics, but thus far he had to satisfy himself by traveling around with the various athletic teams on their trips to other playgrounds.

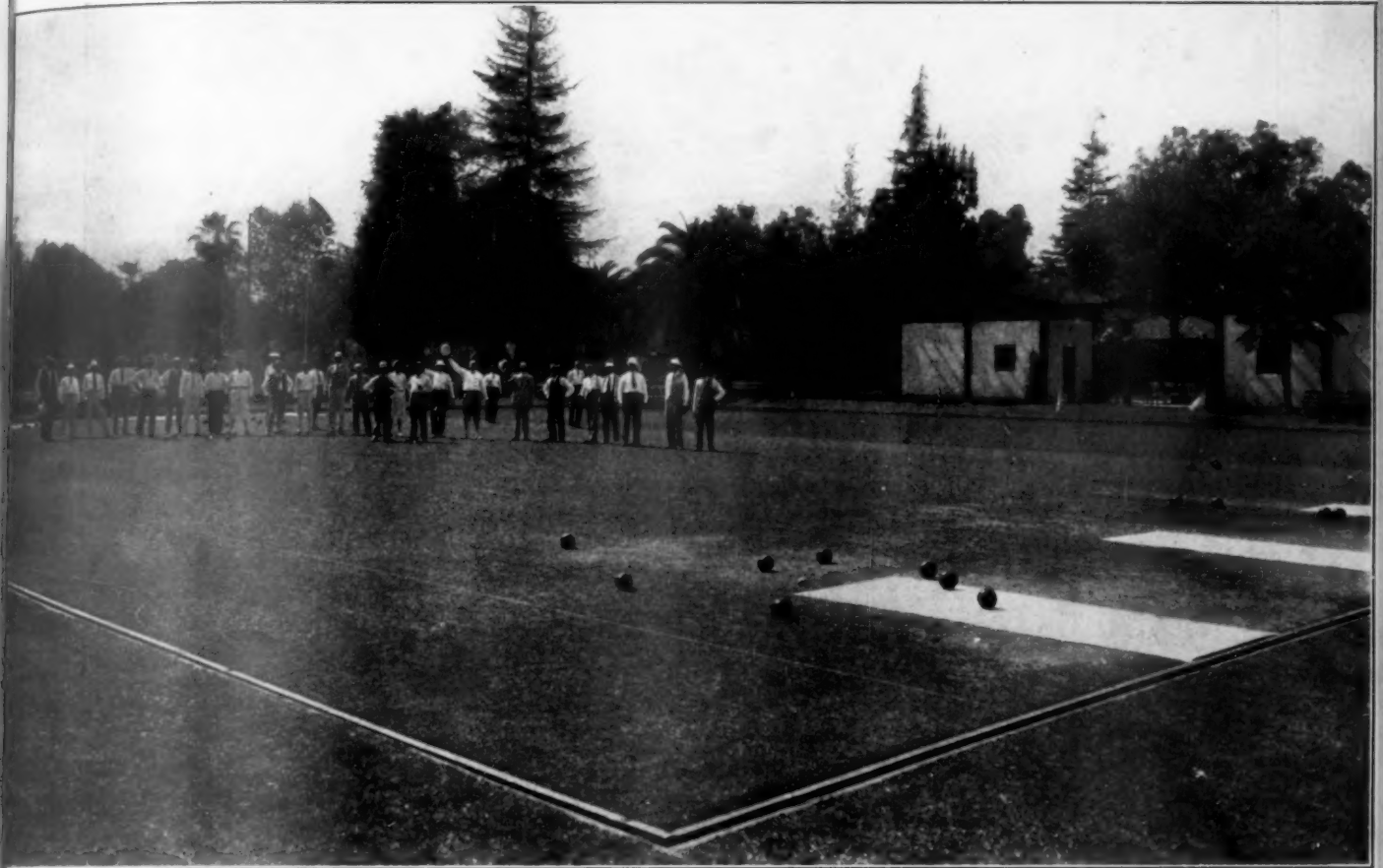
At last, in the chinning the bar event, there came an opportunity for Hans to take part. He made an application and appeared at the field some twenty-two miles from home. The officials had to lift Hans up to the bar. Once there, however,

he had an advantage over the other boys. His was not the handicap this time. The small legs offered little weight to be pulled up. Hans started. He kept going. After fifteen times the officials began to look at each other. A large crowd gathered. At twenty Hans was going strong. At thirty he seemed to lag a little, but there was a look of conquest and fight in his eyes. At thirty-three he was making a heroic effort and finally at the thirty-eighth pull-up, Hans could do no more.

The officials rushed up and lifted him down. Wild applause greeted Hans as the officials proclaimed him the champion of the world. Final records proved that the officials were correct. Those who were privileged to look into that boy's face saw something happen. Achievement to Hans meant a hundred victories. He was now a champion among champions. He was the best in the world. He could do things. He was somebody.

Two weeks later Hans came into the playground superintendent's office. He had been weighing every phase of his life. He now had a plan. First, finish his high school, and this was a big step, for his last year's record had been very unsatisfactory; next, to take up some outdoor business, for he felt that he would be unhappy at secretarial or other indoor work. He went into bee raising, strangely enough, and right in Chicago, too. Hans Hart is a success in the bee and honey industry today. At last accounts, he had found a girl who liked the bee business, too. Hans will tell you at his farm on the edge of south Chicago that the turning point in his life was the great pull-up event in the Junior Olympics of 1924.—*Charles English, Supt. of Recreation, Philadelphia.*

Once we established a playground in a little town of 6,000 and equipped the playground for night play. Before the playground was established boys hung out in front of the theatre, soft drink parlors and drugstores. Checkers, gossip and fighting seemed to be their main activities. Organized games on the playground kept them busy, used up their energy and made a new place out of that little town. Being a small place it was more noticeable than in a city. The above town was Greenwood, Mississippi, and in one month's time we had practically every boy in that town on our playground.—*W. J. Sanford, Jr., Supt. of Recreation, Jacksonville, Fla.*



PASADENA LAWN BOWLING CLUB, CENTRAL PARK

This adult recreation center with the club houses, nine lighted Roque courts, 12 horseshoe pitching lanes and two bowling greens serves 1300 per day.

A young mill worker of rather colorless personality gained a confident bearing through community drama. After he had taken part in several plays, he told the director, "There is a job at the mill I knew I could handle, but I never had the nerve to ask for it. The other day the Boss came up to me and said, 'Jim, do you think you could handle that job?' I said 'yes' and I got it." Until the man had made himself a personality through self-expression in the plays, he had not been noticed.—*Theresa Schmidt, New England Representative of the P. R. A. A.*

An under-sized young fellow in a western city who had not been a star in the games of the boys in his neighborhood was unusually quick and clever with his fingers. He could "roll the bones" with the best of his alley gang, and apparently his only ambition was to become expert in this lucrative sport. He quit school and spent most of his time loafing.

Then the "Spirit of St. Louis" flew across the ocean, and as an outgrowth came the national

model aircraft tournament. There was a contest on a nearby city playground. When the boy heard about it he asked eager questions, and soon he was busy with balsa wood, ambroid, and other delicate materials trying again and again to fashion them into a model plane which would fly. When he wasn't doing that, he was reading about model aircraft and the history of flying.

One of the planes built by his clever fingers won the contest. Because of his skill he was asked to conduct a similar competition in a neighboring city. Now his ambition is to become an engineer, and especially to do something in aeronautics.

He has returned to school and is saving all the money he can outside of school to send himself to an engineering college.—*V. K. Brown.*

A men's club was organized with a membership of vagabonds—all of the great unemployed. They had various recreation activities, including dramatics. One of the interesting things in connection with one of these plays was to see the part of a vagabond being beautifully played by a man



NUMBER 15 GREEN ON THE NEW PASADENA MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

A picturesque and interesting 18-hole course in Brookside Park, with grass greens and fairways, within two miles of the heart of the city.

who himself was the same type. The men's self-respect grew. They began to take jobs and to stick to them. Finally the employed members put it up to the few still unemployed in this way, "We want you to belong to this club, but we don't want any bums in it. So if you are going to stay, you gotta go out and get a job." They went.—*Conshohocken, Pa.*

From the Point of View of a Physician

The article by Dr. J. A. Myers, Associate Professor of Preventive Medicine, University of Minnesota, which appeared in the January, 1929, issue of *The Trained Nurse and Hospital Review*, contains the reflections of a practicing physician on the importance of recreation.

Dr. Myers points out that unless a "person goes into the kind of work that he really enjoys doing he is not going to be most happy in his work and that, therefore, much recreation will be necessary

for him." "The body and mind are so constructed that they must have recreation."

"During childhood perhaps there is nothing that is so good as play when studies are over." Adults must be very careful not to insist that children get their recreation in ways that the adults themselves, but not the children, prefer. For some children outdoor games and sports are real recreation. For others to insist on an activity of this kind when perhaps they prefer to be reading, or studying nature, or playing checkers, or building ships is to try to force upon them activities from which they get literally no recreation whatever.

"If we can lead people into the kind of recreation that will benefit them as well as others we have done a great good." "One reason many people do not accomplish more in life is that when efficiency begins to decrease they change to some kind of play which nets them nothing but recreation." Since recreation consists chiefly in a change of activity it is highly desirable that people try to interest themselves in activities that will not only serve as recreation for them but will also be of benefit to mankind.

Leadership of Older Boys and Girls

In a Nature Lore Program on a City Playground

By

W. E. DILLON

Superintendent of Down Town Boys' Club, Newark, New Jersey

That leadership in nature lore is a problem for a city playground all playground directors will admit. Because of this fact the older boys of the Boy Scouts and older girls from the Camp Fire Girls and Girl Scouts of America have a splendid opportunity to help vitalize the play program in their home town.

There are many things these older boys and girls can do to aid in the program. Here are a few of them.

A Playground Museum

A museum may be established at the playground. If it is not convenient to have a table some of the boys may build one on the unit system using discarded boxes or crates. In the museum have freshly picked flowers in old tin cans or glasses of water with proper labels. By this method many of the boys and girls of the playground may learn the names of the flowers. The Wild Flower Preservation Society, 3740 Oliver Street, Washington, D. C., will be glad to send any information desired.

Small bottles containing samples of soils may be put on exhibit. The State Agricultural College will help you with this part of the museum. Fruit jars containing specimens of nuts, herbs, bark, roots and other things good to eat which are found on playground hikes will make an interesting section of the museum.

Be sure to have an attractive bulletin board for notes and pictures. On it may be pasted Perry pictures of the birds, animals and insects of the neighborhood. Riker Mounts may be used to display specimens of insects, butterflies and moths and of leaves from trees in the neighborhood. The Shade Tree Commission, the Museum and the Isaac Walton League of your city will be glad to cooperate with you, for this is one way in which they can help you teach the boys and girls to read the roadside as well as they can read a book.

A cloud chart is another suggestion for the playground and the boys and girls may be taught how to read a weather map.

Such a museum as I have described can be established by a few older boys and girls on any city playground in cooperation with the playground director.

Playground Hikes

A series of hikes can be organized by older boys and girls which will afford them a great opportunity to develop their initiative and their powers for leadership. Although held in the city these hikes will be profitable and interesting for streets and backyards. Heaven and earth, as well as all parks, supply the material for nature lore activities, independent of budget appropriations or directors!

There is a lesson in each Flower
A Story in each Stream and Bower
In every Herb on which you Tread
Are Written words, which rightly read,
Will lead you from earth's fragrant soil,
To hope and holiness and God.

A series of hikes may be arranged as follows:
First Hike. To find and identify by accepted English name five trees—one nut, one fruit, one tree having some commercial value, two evergreens. In addition find three shrubs.

Second Hike. To find and identify by accepted English name three weeds and five flowers, one plant or flower that is an insect trap, one plant or flower having some commercial value, one poisonous plant and two medicinal plants.

Third Hike. To find and identify by accepted English name the following:

Three good nature citizens at work, telling why they are good citizens. For example, angleworms, sun, birds and others.

Three nature citizens at work, telling why they

are bad citizens. For example nettles, mosquitoes, hornets.

Three nature citizens at play (squirrels chasing each other).

Three nature citizens at rest. (The leaves of trees and many flowers which fold up on dark cloudy days, also every night.)

Three nature citizens promoting a thrift program. ("Go to the ant and be wise. She provideth her meat in the summer and gathereth her food in the harvest.")

Three nature citizens doing good team work by helping others. For example, trees provide shade and homes for birds.

Fourth Hike. To find and identify by accepted English names five birds—

One summer resident bird

One winter resident bird

One bird that catches its food while flying

One bird with a mania for distributing and hiding things

One bird that is a weed destroyer

Fifth Hike. To find and identify five insects, one butterfly or moth, one ant or bee, one grasshopper or cricket, one spider and one insect that builds a home in a tree.

Sixth Hike. To find and identify five rocks, two stones used in building construction, one rock which has in it granite or sandstone, one rock containing mica or quartz, and one specimen of marble or onyx. In addition find three stones or minerals and tell their commercial use.

Seventh Hike. If the playground is near a river or lake there is food for thought in the following:

The reasons why frogs stay near shore and never go out in the middle of the lake.

Why poplar and willow trees are more common than butternut and walnut trees.

Observe the wonderful power of sight and flight of dragonflies.

Why are there few flowers and many grasses?

Study the plants that live in the water.

The frog has many enemies. Who can discover ten of them?

Any older boy or girl interested in this type of program can provide volunteer leadership for selected groups of children.

Nature Lore in Literature

Nature literature provides an interesting field for leadership to older boys and girls. It was an unexpected number of the program of a western playground hike when a 15 year old boy who had

discovered a larch tree suggested to the leader that he would like to tell the hikers what Longfellow said about the tree.

"Give me of your roots, O Tamarack,
Of your fibrous roots, O Larch Tree;
My canoe to bind together
That the water may not enter
That the river may not wet me."

And the Larch with all its fibers,
Shivered in the air of morning,
Touched his forehead with its tassels
Said, with one long sigh of sorrow,
"Take them all, O Hiawatha;"
From the earth he tore the fibres,
Tore the tough roots of the Larch tree,
Closely sewed the bark together and bound it
Closely to the framework of his Birch-Bark
Canoe.

Nature lore cannot be learned satisfactorily from books. One must have original experiences and the boy who discovered that larch tree has learned to apply his education directly to life. Nature activities will cultivate the power of observation and of correct reasoning and by so doing making life stronger and more resourceful. Literature contains many references to nature and boys and girls who would fully appreciate literature need to know something of the plants, animals, trees and flowers to which references are made. Well organized and well planned playground hikes will help them in making this acquaintance.

Many of our poets have written very attractively about birds, flowers, trees and insects. Whenever these specimens are observed on the playground or during a hike, someone may read or recite during the nature lore period a poem about the object discovered. This will make for a greater appreciation of the poem and the specimen found.

Nature Stories and Dramatizations

The telling of nature stories is another field in which older boys and girls will find a golden opportunity. These may be true stories, many of them about original discoveries made about the playground or on hikes. Other stories will be found in the literature of the Audubon Society, the *Nature Magazine*, *American Forest Life* and similar publications.

Stories may be woven about such subjects as the following:

How did the Whip-Poor-Will get its name?

How did the rainbow get its colors?

How did the mosquito get its buzz?

How did the rattlesnake and the copperhead get the pit marks on their heads?

Why does the woodpecker wear a red neck tie?

Adam, naming the animals, had no precedent to guide him. There is an unblazed trail for all who are willing to serve their city by becoming leaders in nature lore activities and helping to develop a program of impromptu plays and pantomimes using as subjects, flowers, trees, insects and weeds. Playground "shows" have many values and deserve a place in the nature lore program. Dramatizations carefully presented will bring to those who come to the playground and to the playground directors a better appreciation of the wonders of nature lore as an activity deserving a place on any city playground program.

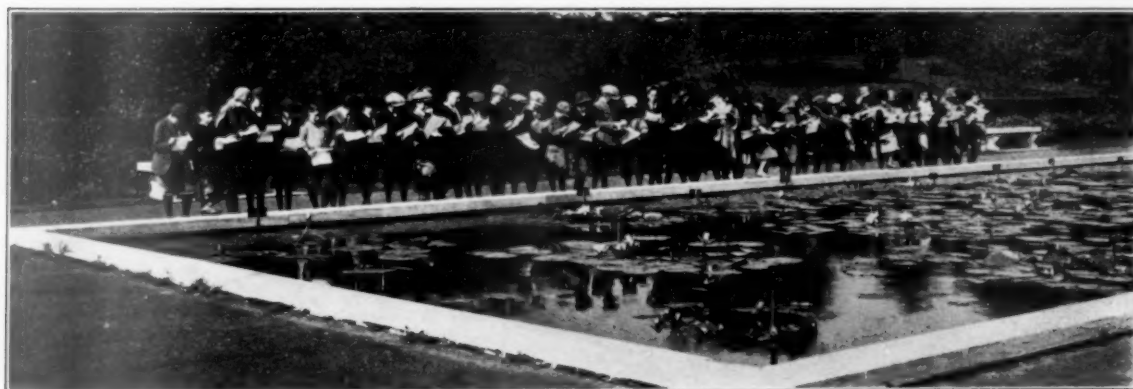
The Nature Museum and Trails at Bear Mountain

The commissioners of the Palisades Interstate Parks announce that outdoor teaching of natural history by means of the nature trails centering at the Trailside Museum at Bear Mountain, New York, will be expanded in several new phases this season. Trailside Museum was established after a number of projects in outdoor nature teaching at the Palisades Interstate Park had been worked

out. Cooperation between the commissioners, the American Association of Museums and the Laura Spellman Rockefeller Memorial, resulted in an agreement that Bear Mountain should be the site of a permanent Trailside Museum and a system of nature trails. The Memorial granted \$7,500 for the construction of the museum. About 50 acres of rocky, wooded, rugged land is given over to the nature trails. The main trail runs north with several branches to the Trailside Museum, a low structure built of glacial boulders, which appears to grow out of the earth like a huge fungus. The trail passes through its open doors.

The Museum is filled with various devices, increased yearly and changed according to the season to direct visitors what to look for outside and how to interpret the life history or other characteristic of what they see. Blackboards give daily bulletins telling what the flowers, birds, insects and animals are doing. Pails are provided for visitors to dip out minute animals and vegetable life in the water of a little pond close by and high power microscopes enable them to examine and identify catches. Geological animals and mineral specimens enable callers to understand the numerous evidences of glaciation in the Hudson River Gorge and the structure and origin of the ancient rocks. Native trees, shrubs, flowering plants, ferns and mosses found in the region are identified by labels along the trails.

Among the new features in the Museum area this summer are a presentation of the plants used by eastern Indians for food, medicine and twine. Some plants are assembled in a suitable area; others are indicated with their Indian uses wherever found. Another novelty is a botany bridge over one of the ponds with water plants brought together where they can be easily seen.



Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, Brooklyn, N. Y.

A VISITING CLASS AT THE LILY PONDS

The John Deere Webber Memorial Baths of Minneapolis

In 1908 the Board of Park Commissioners of Minneapolis, of which Theodore Wirth is superintendent, acquired a strip of land known as Camden Park. C. C. Webber, a public spirited citizen of Minneapolis who owned part of the property, wished to donate the amount received (between \$7,000 and \$8,000) to install a playground or other play facilities for children. It was suggested to Mr. Webber that a bathing pool, which would cost about \$7,000, would be a welcome addition to the park.

The Park Department employed an architect and had plans drawn for the original pool, which was somewhat novel in its construction, as it was built close to Shingle Creek, and was so designed that the water of the creek would flow through this pool in the summer and through its regular course around the building in the winter. In connection with the pool Mr. Webber constructed a small field house.

In 1926 Mr. Webber enlarged the pool, remodeling the entire plant except the field house. The improvements were made partly because of the fact that during the past ten years the stream had not provided a sufficient amount of water because of sub-normal water flow and partly because the stream had become more and more polluted. Through Mr. Webber's generosity, a heating plant was installed and city water introduced, properly heated and purified through filters so that the same water can be used over and over again.

Investments made by Mr. Webber during the two periods of construction totaled between \$140,000 and \$150,000. This has been a gift to the children of the city in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Webber's only son, who died in his youth.

Air Poster Contest in Beaumont, Texas.—

In connection with the air mail week, July 29-August 3, an ad club poster contest was conducted in Beaumont, Texas, for children under sixteen years of age. The children were asked to make posters expressing the usefulness of air mail and these were exhibited during the week at meetings of luncheon clubs and similar groups. The design of the poster was left entirely to the originality of the participants.



JOHN DEERE WEBBER MEMORIAL BATHS, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

A Progressive Game Party*

The first thing to do in planning a progressive game party is to select ten, twelve or fifteen games, according to the number of people you have, that you are sure this group of people will be interested to play. After all of your games have been planned and all necessary equipment purchased, arrange these games in an organized manner around the room or gymnasium in which the party is to be held. But sure that you have plenty of space at each game. Do not crowd your games too close together. Have fewer games rather than do this.

After all the games have been arranged, number them consecutively. Now make as many score cards as you have games planned. Put the number of the game at the top of the card and then begin with number one and list on the card the number of games you have. Each number refers to a game. Leave a blank space opposite each number for registering the scores for each game.

Now all is "set" for the arrival of the people. When all have arrived, choose as many captains as you have games, then divide the rest of the people into teams captained by these leaders. It does not matter if one or two teams are a little larger or smaller than some other teams. No team is handicapped at all on account of this. Care should be taken, however, in planning the party, to try to have just the right number of games so that when the group is divided there will be about four players to a team. It may be more or less, but four is a good number.

After the captains and teams have been chosen the leader tells the contestants that when the whistle is blown the captain and his team must go to the game indicated by the number at the top of the score card. When the whistle is blown the second time all contestants start playing the game. The players on the various teams play the game as fast as they can as long as the players play in their order. The captain keeps score for his team. If possible some one may be stationed at each game to act as a sort of umpire to see that all teams live up to the rules of the different games.

After the teams have played three or four minutes the leader blows his whistle again. Everybody must stop immediately after this whistle is

blown. The scores are added up and the teams go to the game the next highest in number. The whistle is blown again and the teams start playing once more. This procedure is used until each team has played every game. Then the scores are all added and the team having the highest score for the evening wins and should be given a prize. Sometimes a prize is given to the lowest team as a box of Bran "Pep" or something similar.

The progressive game party is very interesting as everyone plays the games. You do not have one dull moment. Care should be taken not to allow your people to become too tired or to play the game too long until they become uninterested in it. This can be taken care of very easily by shortening the periods at each game. All intervals should be the same during the evening so that all teams will have the same chance.

GAME SUGGESTIONS FOR A PROGRESSIVE PARTY

Ring-O-Let	Rubber Heel Toss
Ball Throw	Bowling
Tiddley Winks	Indoor Golf
Ep's Dart Game	Pitching Quoits
Balls in Hoops	Shot Put

Ball Throw

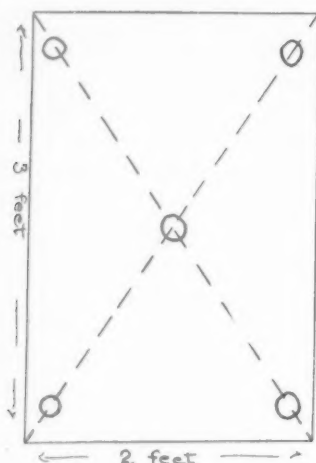
Equipment and Construction. Take a piece of beaver board two feet by three feet and draw the two diagonals of this rectangle. Where these intersect make a round hole six inches in diameter. Measure eleven inches from each end of the two diagonals and make another hole. This makes five holes, all of which must be braced from the back. The outer edges of the beaver board must also be reinforced. These holes are made for a fourteen inch playground ball. For a regulation size baseball or any similar ball, holes can be made accordingly. Take a piece of wood two and a half inches by three inches, fasten a small hinge on one end. Then fasten the other half of the hinge to one of the braces, about one foot from the top of the board. If a nail is put in the end of this prop and this nail is sharpened, you will be able to stand the board anywhere.

Any number of persons may play the game. Individual scores may be kept, or teams may compete against each other. The holes are labeled so that the most difficult holes count more. All the

*Issued by the Department of Municipal Recreation, Board of Park Commissioners, Evansville, Indiana.

holes are labeled, the two top holes count fifteen, center ten, and the two bottom holes five. A game constitutes two hundred points.

This game is especially good for picnics, playgrounds and parties.

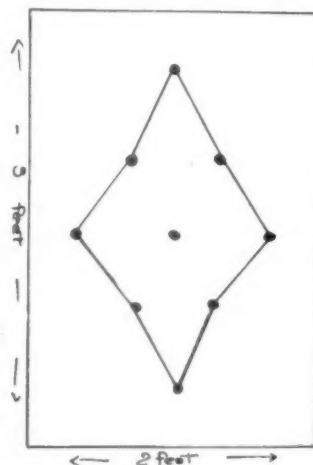
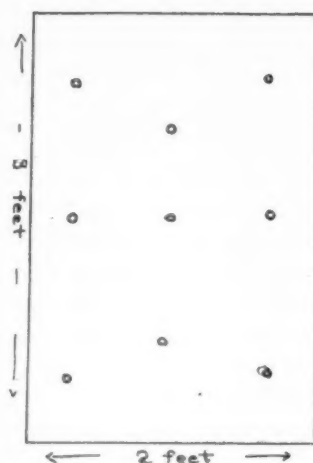


Ring-O-Let

Equipment and Construction. Make a board two feet by three feet rounding off all four corners. Take one dozen hooks—the diameter of the opening of hook is about one inch—and screw these into the board at the places outlined in the diagram. Place a small screw on the center. A prop similar to the one used in the ball throw may be used for this board. Each hook is labeled according to the difficulty in ringing it. Rings are made from one-half inch rope, the ends woven together or tied with thread or string. The diameter of the ring is four inches.

Playing the Game. From a balk line fifteen feet away a player throws six rings. He may lean over the line as far as he can without touching the balk line or the ground in front of it. The amount to be made is listed underneath the hooks and are the scores to be made, if a ring is hooked. However, all rings caught on the center hook count ten points against the player. Any number of persons may play either as individuals or as teams.

A variation of this game, and cheaper in construction consists of using a piece of beaver board of the same dimensions as in the above. Cheaper and smaller hooks can be bought and placed in the positions as indicated on the diagram. Can rubbers may be used instead of rings of rope and the distance is ten feet. Points are scored the same as above.



Ep's Dart Game

Equipment and Construction. Take a piece of beaver board two feet by three feet or a board made of soft wood that is easily penetrated by a dart, and paint the figure as indicated in the diagram. Six darts are also needed. These may also be made or purchased at some sporting goods store for 10 cents each.

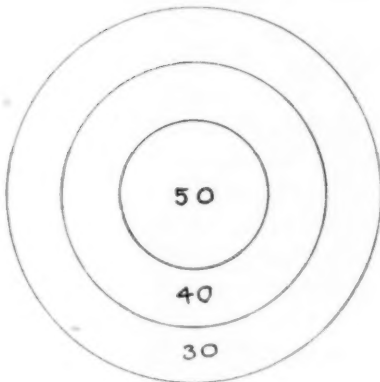
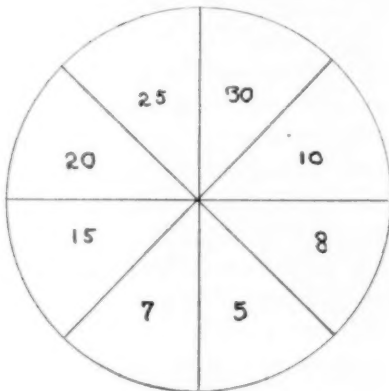
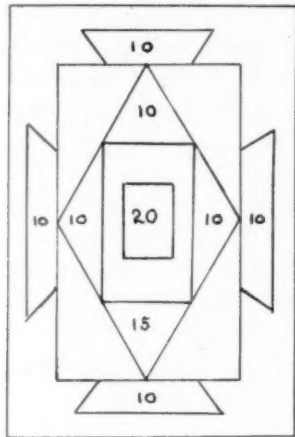
Playing Rules. Each person takes six darts and from the balk line fifteen feet from the target throws them at the target. If a dart is on the line in the figure the highest possible score is counted. A game is 500 points. The darts may be thrown anyway except by holding them by the feathers. This is a very interesting game and is liked by everyone. A number of persons may play and individual or team scores may be counted.

Anyone can make a satisfactory dart by taking a round piece of wood one-half inch in diameter, three inches long and driving a small nail into one end, filing off the head and making a very

sharp point. Split the other end of the piece of wood and put in some feathers. String should be wrapped around the end with the feathers so as to insure that the feathers will stay in.

This is a very good game for grown ups. Children should be watched carefully if allowed to play.

Variations in types of targets to be used for this game are found in diagrams.



Rubber Heel Pitch

Draw a circle on the floor or ground with a diameter of two feet. Divide the circle into the

four quadrants, each with a number in it. Draw a line twelve feet from the center of the circle. From this line each player tries to pitch three rubber heels (medium size) into the quadrants. Each heel that stays in the circle scores as many points as indicated in that quadrant. If a heel falls on a line, the highest score is counted.

Ball in Basket

Put an ordinary bushel basket against the wall. Draw a line eight feet from this basket. Take a volley ball or a basket ball and from this line try to bounce the ball into the basket. Each time the ball stays in the basket it counts ten points. Points are allowed only when the ball hits the floor or ground before going into the basket. It must be bounced.

Pitching Quoits

Take an ordinary straight chair, piano stool is better, and turn it upside down so that the four legs will be in a vertical position. Each player takes three ordinary rope quoits, as used in Ring-O-Let, and from a distance of seven feet tries to ring the chair legs. Ten points are counted for every time a ring is made.

Ball in Hoop

Take an ordinary barrel hoop with a diameter of not more than fourteen or sixteen inches. Place this hoop against the wall and draw a line six feet from the hoop. Each player has three balls, one volley ball, one golf ball and one baseball. (Any three different types of balls could be used). The player pitches, bounces or throws the balls in any way he chooses, at the hoop. Every ball that stays in the hoop scores ten points.

Shot Put

Take an ordinary drinking glass, bottle or anything similar. Give each contestant ten grains of corn (navy beans or gun shot of any kind will do). Each contestant stands erect and directly over the glass and drops the corn into it. Each grain in the glass counts ten points.

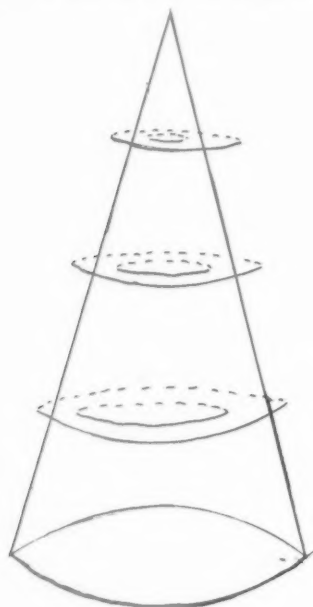
Bowling

Take six Indian clubs or any substitute for them and one croquet ball.

Button Flip

Another game which is appropriate for a progressive party is button flip.

Make a cone out of paper, with a base whose diameter is about three or four inches. Make some shelves out of cardboard, as indicated on the diagram and put these on the cone. Take three small buttons and with a large button flip the smaller ones on the shelves. Each shelf is labeled. The first shelf may count five points, the second ten and the third twenty. Another way to play this game would be to take some grains of corn, buttons or anything similar, form a line about one foot from the base of the cone, knuckle down and try to shoot the objects on these shelves.



Workingmen's Leisure

M. Louis Pierard, a member of the Chamber of Deputies in Belgium, was one of the speakers last summer at the Williamstown Institute of Politics at Williamstown, Mass. M. Pierard's lectures had to do chiefly with the accomplishments of the Labor Party in Belgium but it was interesting to note that he gave one full lecture to the question of workingmen's leisure in Belgium. His addresses have been reprinted in a little book entitled "Belgium Problems since the War," published by the Yale University Press. M. Pierard recognizes emphatically the leisure time implications of the eight-hour day attained before and chiefly since the war. He also recognizes the need for creative opportunities during leisure as a special implication of mechanized industry. He

recognizes the duty of government to "have a policy of transport and of housing through which the working man will be able to settle far away from the industrial suburbs where he is earning his daily bread; that is a part of the problem of leisure time." Finally he recognizes the further duty of government to provide easily accessible opportunities for the enrichment of the lives of working men during their leisure time.

It is M. Pierard who has tried to get the whole Belgium kingdom to adopt the plan already in existence in three of the provinces, Hainaut, Liege, and Brabant, and to establish a National Fund for Popular Education, or, under a National Fund for the Workingman's Free Time. Under this bill a National Board for the whole kingdom "will organize art and folk lore exhibitions, competitions for the making of cheap furniture and decoration of the workingman's home. It will promote gardening, physical training through the creation of gymnasiums, playgrounds and bathing places, music (choral societies and bands), theatres with the contribution of professional actors and amateurs, general education through lecture courses, cinema, visits to museums and art galleries and travel. The National Fund will give subventions to social centers, clubs, camps and settlements, opened to workingmen of all opinions." This bill has never been passed, although apparently it has gone through one of the Houses of the Belgian Legislature. Similar programs have, however, been carried on in the three provinces above mentioned. In Hainaut, for instance, the provincial commission of leisure time has the following sections,—

1. Building of houses, furniture and decoration of the workingman's home
2. Gardening
3. Petits Elevages (breeding of poultry, pigeons, sheep, goats)
4. Sport and physical training
5. Artistic education (art exhibitions, competitions between music and dramatic societies)
6. General education (lecture, circulating libraries, travel, visits to galleries)
7. Moral education (this last section has taken the initiative of introducing into Belgium the American custom of Mother's Day, which is now very popular).

Similar commissions in generally similar lines of work and funds provided by the provinces exist also in Liege and Brabant.

Intramural Sports at the University of Wisconsin

The program of intramural class and required sports conducted by the Women's Division of the Department of Physical Education at the University of Wisconsin, of which Miss Blanche Trilling is director, is described in an article on "Physical Education and Badger Women" by Miss Margaret A. Sherwin which appeared in the Wisconsin Alumni Magazine. Extracts from the article follow:

The department does not favor inter-collegiate sports for girls and yet, believing that there is value to be gained from competition, it promotes intergroup activities in many ways.

To a great many people competition means specialization and intensive training in the chosen sport. This need not be the case. Wisconsin is striving to make provision for healthful recreative participation, placing emphasis on interesting the majority in an activity for personal enjoyment rather than on a record-breaking few.

Intramural and Class

The Women's Division sponsors two distinct forms of competition—intramural and class. Intramurals, which are playing so important a part in many schools and colleges today, give every group the opportunity to organize for the purpose of entering a team in one or more tournaments.

The intramural committee is made up of two physical education faculty advisers and four students, one of whom is the chairman and is a member at large of the Women's Athletic Association Board. This committee meets weekly to make all plans and arrangements for the women's intramural sports activities.

From 215 to 848

In 1925-26 only one tournament was run—basketball, in which 215 girls were entered. In 1926-27 there were tournaments in seven different sports and 848 girls were entered. In 1927-28 there were tournaments in ten different activities as follows: baseball, basketball, bowling, hockey, horse shoes, swimming, tennis, track, volley ball, and a Winter Carnival. Exactly 1,694 students participated in these tournaments and 52 girls' organizations were represented.

Various kinds of tournaments are held in the various activities. For example, the Round Robin type of tournament with the winners of each group competing in a final elimination tournament is used in activities such as horseshoes, volley ball, basketball, bowling, baseball, hockey, swimming and track. The straight elimination type of tournament is used for tennis, and the Winter Carnival is held as a regular meet.

Cups to Winners

Cups are presented to the winners of each tournament at the time of the Women's Athletic Association Intramural Banquet which is held at the end of the season.

In order to provide playing space for the intramural activities, it has been necessary to rent the gymnasium of the Luther Memorial Church.

Honorary Teams

The Women's Athletic Association has class teams in all sports and each class plays its three rivals for the championships. At the end of the year an honorary varsity team is selected on the basis of form, participation and skill.

This year during Freshman Week, a Play Day was held for all entering women. The morning was taken up with organized, and the afternoon with individual sports. Supper was served for all at the W. A. A. Cottage, a most attractive and ever-occupied spot on the shore of Lake Mendota.

The Required Program

Another important and essential phase of the Women's Department is to take care of the two year physical education requirement, compulsory for all co-eds. This has no connection with the program outlined above, for all intramural and class competition is carried on over and above the required work and without physical education credit. The great number participating in these activities with no accompanying credit is an encouraging proof of the success of one of the department's aims, "Play for play's sake."

To fulfill her two year requirement, each student is first given a thorough medical and physical examination and is classified according to her health grade. She then selects her sport. If individual work is necessary, this is planned speci-

fically for each student and aims to correct whatever defects were found in the physical examination. If she has a high health grade, there are many sports which are open to her. At Lathrop Hall are held classes in dancing, tennis, basketball, indoor baseball, bowling, clogging, games, fundamental gymnastics and swimming.

A few blocks from Lathrop Hall is Camp Randall, where there are fields and equipment leading to a further choice of hockey, volley ball, archery, track, outdoor baseball, and winter sports. Three more possibilities are golf and horseback riding which may be taken up individually, and canoeing, which is held on Lake Mendota at the University Bathhouse.

Thus it can be seen that no girl has to take any special work which might be uninteresting to her. She may choose for herself all the way through.

Professional Course

Another way of stimulating interest is the organization of clubs which give to students the opportunity of doing more advanced work than is usually possible in general class activities. For example, swimming has the Dolphin Club, membership is based entirely on a girl's interest and ability in swimming. Dolphin presents several swimming and diving demonstrations and pageants during the year to which the public is invited. Dancing has Orchesis, into which girls are invited who have attained certain standards and who have made real contributions along the lines of dancing, music or poetry. Orchesis each year puts on a dance drama, which is the outgrowth of the creative effort of the group.

A Track and Field Meet for City and Rural Schools

John S. Wilson, president of the Community Service of Augusta, Georgia, writes of the interesting plan developed by Community Service for holding a track and field meet during April and May. The meet was a great success.

There are in Augusta nine public grammar schools and three Catholic grammar schools. In the county there are eleven grammar schools. All of the rural schools entered the meet, eight of the nine city schools and one of the three Catholic schools—a total of eleven county schools and nine

city schools. A careful study was made of the schools, the ages of the pupils, enrollment and other details, and six classes of entries were established—three for boys and three for girls with the same age limits for both.

There were 279 entries in the city schools championship and 230 entries in the rural schools championship. In the county finals there were 101 entries from the city and 100 from the county or a total of 201.

Out of the total number of eligibles in the city schools of 2,267, 1,210 individual children participated in elimination meets. In the rural schools of 576 eligibles, 396 took part. The percentage for the city schools was 53.37%; for the rural schools, 69.91%. Most of the meets were held on the playground and the result was a wealth of splendid publicity and the securing of many new friends for the playground movement.

Columbus, Ohio, Receives Gift

A bathing pool and bath house to cost \$50,000 is the gift to the city of the Columbus, Ohio, *Dispatch*. The swimming pool will be erected in Maryland Park, the center of the Negro residential district, and will be administered by the city Recreation Department. To insure water of a suitable temperature for swimming, the most modern re-circulating system is to be installed. This consists of a centrifugal pump, pressure filters and a sterilizer. The water is first pumped from the bottom of the pool and from the scum gutters to the filters, which remove all sediment. After leaving the filters it is sterilized and then returned to the pool. The capacity of the re-circulation system is such that the entire contents of the pool, 330,000 gallons, will be filtered and sterilized every ten hours.

The pool, 150'x70', is to be equipped with life guard chairs, springboard, slides, swings and other pool equipment for the use of bathers.

Mammoth flood lights, mounted on tall poles, will reach every corner of the pool with their brilliant light, so that night bathing will be safe and enjoyable as in the daytime. The bath house is to be constructed of California stucco and will be completely equipped for the convenience of the bathers. Comfortable booths are provided for dressing and safe storage of clothing is assured by the use of checking baskets.

Hibbing's Municipal Recreation Program

It has been four years since the municipal recreation program of Hibbing, Minnesota, was instituted and the Recreation Council under whose auspices it is being conducted is asking itself the following questions:

1. After four years, what has the recreation program done for Hibbing and its people?
2. Should the program be continued? If so, how?
3. If the program is to continue, how shall we proceed in its development during the next five or ten years?

To help in answering these questions, the director of recreation, B. G. Leighton, has prepared a statement. It will be encouraging to recreation leaders in communities of the size of Hibbing, which may also be serving rural districts, to see how wide a service is possible on a budget of about \$18,000.

A. The Community and Its Recreation Problems

Inheriting the community problems of a mining town consisting of thirty-two nationalities with widespread population groups in seven rural districts, twenty-three mining locations, and a village divided into five geographical sections, a recreation department was organized in August, 1925, whose prime function has been to carry on a seven-way recreation program. No property was acquired, no elaborate maintenance program carried on.

The department was organized under the responsibility of the Hibbing Recreation Council, consisting of twenty-nine representatives from the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club, Lions' Club, Women's Saturday Club, Village Council of Hibbing, Hibbing Park Board, Stunts Township Board, and the Board of Education.

School buildings, churches, Farmers' Clubs, vacant lots, a recreation building and similar public and private facilities were used to carry on the recreation program.

During the previous ten years many groups in the Hibbing district carried on independent experiments in recreational activities, which helped to create a public sentiment in favor of a centralized municipal recreation department.

The program was financed by an appropriation from the School Board, Village Council and

Township Board amounting to approximately \$30,000.00 per year.

B. Organization of the Recreation Department

The department organization consists of:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| One Director | One Office Secretary |
| One Assistant Director (Man) | Twenty to sixty part time workers in various phases of recreational activity. |
| Two Assistant Directors (Women) | |

C. The Seven-Way Program of Activities

The following is a general outline of the seven-way program as carried out:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| a. <i>Playground Work</i> | e. <i>Social and Recreative Clubs</i> |
| 19 Summer Playgrounds | f. <i>Service to Organizations</i> |
| 8 After-School Playgrounds | g. <i>Memorial-Recreation Building</i> |
| 8 Winter Playgrounds | Hockey and Skating Rink |
| b. <i>Social Center Work</i> | Auditorium |
| 4 Village Schools | Dining Room and Kitchen |
| 11 Location Schools | Club Rooms |
| 6 Rural Schools | 8 Curling Rinks |
| c. <i>Municipal Athletics</i> | |
| 16 Major Sports | |
| d. <i>Special Feature Events</i> | |

D. Statistical Summary of Participation for One Year

A brief statistical summary of persons taking part in the program for one year (1927) shows the following:

Number of groups organized.....	1,011
Enrollment	17,622
Number of games or meetings.....	5,536
Total participation accumulative....	233,561
Total Accumulative Contacts made..	416,192

Playground Work

A. Summer Playgrounds

1. *Inter-Playground Competition*
Diamond Ball, Volley Ball, Horseshoe, Croquet, Swimming, Track Meet, Tumbling, Tin Can Alley
2. *Classes and Clubs*
Craft work, Storytelling, Dramatics, Novelty Clubs
3. *Special Features*
Playground Circus, Costume Parade, Doll Buggy Parade, Craft Exhibit, Field Day, One-Act Play Contest, Pet Show, Pushmo-

bile Derby, Bonfire Sings, Community Programs

4. *Free Play Activity*

B. Winter Playgrounds

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Tobogganing | 4. Novelty Stunts |
| 2. Hockey | 5. Snow Modeling |
| 3. Skating | 6. Dog Derby |

C. Spring Playgrounds

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Handball | 3. Horseshoe |
| 2. Novelty Stunts | 4. Spring Contests |

Social Center Work

A. Indoor Athletics

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. Swimming | 3. Volley Ball |
| 2. Indoor Baseball | 4. Basket Ball |

B. Gymnasium Classes

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| 1. Women's Reducing | 3. Tumbling |
| 2. Men's Club | |

C. Classes and Clubs

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| 1. Craft Clubs | 3. Girls' Clubs |
| 2. Boys' Clubs | 4. Model Airplane Club |

D. Quiet Game Room

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. Checkers | 4. Board Games |
| 2. Chess | 5. Card Games |

3. Ping Pong

E. Contests and Exhibits

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Craft Exhibit | 3. Airplane Contest |
| 2. Quiet Game Contests | 4. Closing Programs |

F. Music

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1. String Band | 3. Ukulele |
| 2. Harmonica | 4. Mandolin |

G. Dramatics

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Girls' Dramatic Club | 2. Storytelling Clubs |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|

H. Dancing

- | |
|------------------------|
| 1. Social Dancing Club |
|------------------------|

I. Community Parties

1. Bi-weekly parties in five rural and 11 location schools
2. Tobogganing Parties

Municipal Athletics

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Baseball | 9. Soccer |
| 2. Playground Ball | 10. Touch Ball |
| 3. Volley Ball | 11. Hockey |
| 4. Horseshoe | 12. Skiing |
| 5. Tennis | 13. Skating |
| 6. Swimming | 14. Basket Ball |
| 7. Croquet | 15. Bowling |
| 8. Foot Ball | 16. Hand Ball |

Winter Sports

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Snow Modeling | 5. Hockey |
| 2. Tobogganing | 6. Dog Derbies |
| 3. Skiing | 7. Winter Frolic |
| 4. Skating | 8. Sleigh Rides |

Service to Organizations

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Picnic Service | 5. Entertainment Numbers |
| 2. Party Service | 6. Holiday Celebrations |
| 3. Feature Promotions | 7. Institutes |
| 4. Community Programs | 8. Bulletin Service |
| | 9. Reference Service |

The service includes:

Leadership—Program—Equipment—Instruction

Special Feature Events

1. Children's New Year's Party—Range Shrine Club
2. All-Rural Party—Farmers' Clubs
3. Institute for Girls Taking Care of Children—Mother's Civic Program
4. Municipal and Golden Wedding Celebration—Old Settler and Advertising Club and Village Council.
5. One Day Winter Frolic—Community Clubs
6. Play Leaders' Institute—Recreation Department
7. Bridge Tournament—Committee
8. Cribbage Tournament—Committee
9. All-Location Party—Community Clubs
10. Square Dance Callers' Contest—Hibbing Daily Tribune
11. Location One-Act Play Contest—Community Clubs
12. Rural One-Act Play Contest—St. Louis County Recreation Committee
13. Easter Egg Hunt—Lions Club
14. Model Airplane Contest and Recreation Review—Kiwanis Club
15. National Music Week—Civic Committee
16. Home Play Week Campaign—Rotary Club
17. Back Yard Playground Contest—Women's Saturday Club
18. July 4th Celebration—American Legion
19. Playground Circus—Recreation Department
20. Recreation Review—St. Louis County Fair
21. Hallowe'en Celebration—Chamber of Commerce
22. Santa Claus Reception and Program Schedule—Advertising Club
23. Sectional State Contests—
 - Hockey—State
 - Playground Ball—State
 - Skiing—Arrowhead
 - Horseshoe—State
 - Basket Ball—Northern Minnesota
 - Base Ball—Northern Minnesota
 - Basket Ball Free Throw—National
 - Football Test—Mid-West

Plays From the Orient

Plays from the Chinese and Japanese, or satire written in the oriental manner, provide charming material for women's organizations as well as Community and Little Theatres. The less difficult plays are especially useful for inexperienced players, as they require the simplest of properties. A strip of cloth laid across the stage is a river and a board placed across it, a bridge, and, so utterly trustful is the playwright that a bit of pretense will pass unobserved, an actual stream of water and a bamboo bridge could serve the purpose no better. If a mountain is needed, the unembarrassed property man will quickly supply a table and chair.

Both Chinese and Japanese plays combined ancient wisdom with a naive spirit of make-believe, so engagingly interwoven that they are quite unlike any other type of play. In the Chinese play the property man plays an important part. He comes and goes, apparently at will, assisting or quite as often impeding the progress of the play, being snubbed by the actors and made the butt of their jokes. Not infrequently the play ends with his suffering the penalty of execution which the hero has just escaped. Chinese humor has a flavor as distinctive as soy sauce, from its extreme simplicity safe in the hands of amateur players. The beauty of the dramatized Japanese legend is based on a simple dignity that requires little more than a liking for its delicate patterns to make the play a thing of great delight.

The following list includes both Chinese and Japanese folk plays as well as a number of missionary plays of both countries.

LIST OF CHINESE AND JAPANESE PLAYS

The Mask-Maker, by Kido Okamoto. 3 acts. 1 interior, 1 exterior. 6 men, 2 women, extras. A Japanese tragedy by one of the foremost modern Japanese playwrights. The play deals with the ancient art of carving masks. The great mask-maker places his art above paternal love and sketches the face of his dying daughter for a death mask. Experience necessary. Samuel French, 25 West 45th Street, New York City. 50c. Royalty, \$10.

A Flower of Yeddo, by Victor Mapes. 1 act. Interior. 1 man, 3 women. Can be played by four women. A popular Japanese play in which

a young man's faithfulness is thoroughly tested by his sweetheart. Amusing and typically Japanese in character. Samuel French. 30c. Royalty, \$5.

A Dear Little Wife, by Gerald Dunn. 1 act. 1 interior. 2 men, 1 woman. All women possible. A sophisticated comedy of Japanese life. Successful with amateur groups. French. 30c. Royalty, \$5.

The Purple Iris, a story of Old Japan told by Antoinette Withington. 1 act. Exterior. 5 women, 2 men. All women cast possible. A nobly born girl, foster daughter of a gardener, reveals herself to the Empress with the gift of a purple iris. An exquisite little play. Woman's Press, 600 Lexington Avenue, New York City. 50c.

The Romance of the Willow Pattern, by Ethel Van der Veer. Prologue and seven acts. 1 exterior. 4 men, 1 woman. To be produced after the manner of the Chinese Theatre, without scenery or curtains. It is the story of the familiar blue willow ware plate, charmingly told. In "Twelve One-act Plays." Longmans, Green and Co., 55 Fifth Avenue, New York City. \$2.50. Royalty, \$10.

Told in a Chinese Garden, by Constance Wilcox. 1 act. 6 men, 3 women. Exterior. A delightful romantic comedy with a Chinese background. Recommended for a cast of women or girls. Experience necessary. French. 30c. Royalty, \$5.

The Moon Maid, by James Juvenal Hayes. 1 act. Exterior. 1 woman, 13 men. Possible all women cast. The Moon Maid sends her three lovers on hopeless quests and when the Mikado himself woos her she is carried off by the moon-folk. A delicate, pleasing little play. Old Tower Press, Lockport, Illinois. 40c.

The Stolen Prince, by Dan Totheroh. A playlet done in the Chinese fashion. 3 women, 10 men. How the prince, stolen in infancy, was restored to the royal family by his faithful nurse. In "Short Plays," edited by Webber and Webster. Houghton Mifflin Co., 4 Park Street, Boston. \$2. Recommended for Junior High School use.

The Wicket Wang-Pah Meets a Dragon, by Flornalyn Cadwell. Chinese fantasy in 3 acts. 8 men, 4 women, extras. 1 exterior. Delightful play

based on Chinese legends with a love story, adventure, atmosphere, and poetry. French. 50c. Royalty \$10. For experienced players.

The Turtle Dove, by Margaret Scott Oliver. A one-act play in the Chinese manner. Six characters, either men or women, extras for chorus if desired. A whimsical play in which the property man amusingly offsets the make-believe element. Artistic production necessary. Baker. 35c. Royalty, \$5

The Chinese Lantern, by Laurence Housman. 3 acts. 1 interior. 12 men, 2 women. Plays 2½ hours. Satirical wit combined with the poetic atmosphere of China bring color and humor to this charming and fantastic comedy of modern times. Players should be experienced. French. 75c. Royalty, \$25

The Lady of the Weeping Willow Tree by Stuart Walker. 3 acts. 2 men, 4 women. A Japanese play taking place at a house party. Has had many productions by college groups. In "More Portmanteau Plays." Stewart and Kidd, 121 East 5th Street, Cincinnati, Ohio. \$2.50. Royalty, \$15

Lady White and Lady Yellow, by Virginia Olcott. 1 act. Garden scene. 5 girls and extras. A graceful little play explaining how the white chrysanthemum came to be the favorite flower of Japan. In "International Play for Young People." Dodd, Mead and Company. \$1.75

MISSIONARY PLAYS OF CHINA AND JAPAN

Dramatic Missionary Sketches on Japan, by Daisy Earle Fish. Contains the following: Winning Japan—11 or more characters. Interesting Aunt Sally—an impersonation; Inasmuch—a contrast with 8 or more characters; A Wayside Sign—9 characters; The Collector—4 characters; Asahi, a Japanese Pollyanna—5 characters. Baptist Board of Education, 276 Fifth Avenue, New York City. 25c

Plum Blossoms and Other Plays, by Elizabeth Edland. For intermediate and older junior groups. 7 women characters. An impressive play telling how the brave Lotus Bud carried on the work begun by her sister whom she lost in an earthquake. This collection also contains "The Madonna's Picture," another Japanese Play. Abingdon Press, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York City. 35c

Alice through the Postal Card, by Anita B. Ferris. 18 characters. A play for juniors showing what

happened to Alice when she stepped through a postal card door to Japan. Missionary Education Movement, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York City. 15c

The Betrothal of Mai Tsung, by Kyung Shien Sung and Vida R. Sutton. 15 characters. A charming love story of a Chinese boy and girl who become Christians, attend college in America, and object to the old Chinese betrothal customs. A solution to their problem is found and all ends happily. Missionary Education Movement. 25c

The Honorable Guest by Frances Cavanah. A charming little play for girls from nine to twelve years. A group of Japanese girls meet their American guest in an unexpected fashion and learn that all children are very much alike. Friendship Press, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York City. 25c

Courses in Recreation

The following courses in recreation will be given at the University of Cincinnati during the year 1929-30:

P.E. 63—Practice in Recreational Activities for Women. Wednesday 7:30-9:30 p. m. 1 credit hour per semester

(This course will include practice in games, athletics, folk dancing, handcraft, and swimming for use on playground, play streets and community centers.)

P.E. 63b—Practice in Recreation Activities for Men. Wednesday 7:30-9:30 p. m. (second semester). 1 credit

(This course will include practice in games, athletics, handcraft, and swimming, for use on playgrounds, play streets, and community centers.)

P.E. 66b—Folk Dancing. Thursday 7:30-9:30 p. m. (second semester). 1 credit

(This course will include all the dances that will be used in the Annual May Folk Dancing Festival, as well as new material in American and foreign folk and character dances.)

P.E. 1652—Principles of Recreational Activities. Thursday 7:30-9:30 p. m. (first semester). 2 credits

(This course will include the history and theory of recreational activities, and the organization of recreation departments, considering state laws, taxation, appropriation.

Child Welfare Conference to Be Called

President Hoover has announced that within the next year a Child Welfare Conference will be called in Washington. The meeting will be preceded by an exhaustive survey by committees identified with various phases of Child Welfare work. The project is to be financed by \$500,000 which the President has received from private sources.

In announcing the conference President Hoover said:

"I have decided to call a White House conference on the health and protection of children. This conference will be comprised of representatives of the great voluntary associations, together with the federal and state and municipal authorities interested in these questions. Its purpose will be to determine the facts as to our present progress and our future needs in this great field and to make recommendations for such measures for more effective official and voluntary action and their co-ordination as will further develop the care and protection of children.

"The subjects to be covered embrace problems of dependent children, regular medical examination, school or public clinics for children, hospitalization, adequate milk supplies, community nurses, maternity instruction and nursing, teaching of health in the schools, facilities for playgrounds and recreation, voluntary organization of children, child labor and scores of allied subjects.

"To cover the expenses of the preliminary committees and the conference and follow up work which will be required to carry out the conclusions of the conference a sum of \$500,000 has been placed at my disposal from private sources.

"This will be the first national conference held in review of this subject since the conference called by President Roosevelt in 1909.

"I have communicated with a number of the larger voluntary bodies and public officials throughout the country and find they are unanimous in the belief that such a national review is urgently needed in order to establish a new platform for further advance, and they are in agreement with me in the necessity for exhaustive examination of the whole situation and the preparation of material before such a conference is called if we are to secure effective results from the conference."

The work of the conference will be under the

direction of the Secretary of the Interior, Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, with the cooperation of the Secretary of Labor, James J. Davis.

Dr. Harry E. Barnard, formerly State Health Commissioner of Indiana, has been selected as executive secretary of the conference and a small preliminary committee is in process of appointment which will expand its own membership and will determine the subjects to be investigated by special committees outlined above and make recommendations for their personnel.

A New Club for Young People

A club for young people known as the Junior Golf and Sports Association is being organized, according to the New York Times of April 17th, for children between 7 and 16 years of age of the wealthy residents in the North Shore district of Long Island. The organization, which is to have a 60-acre property with all sport and recreational facilities, is, in the words of one of the founders, to be "a club for young people which will avoid the unhealthy and usual influence of clubs for adults."

A preliminary estimate of the cost of financing the organization is \$100,000, a large part of which will be met by the sale of 100 founder memberships at \$500 each to the families along the North Shore. A nine-hole golf course, an auditorium, swimming pool, tennis courts, riding and playing fields for baseball and football, facilities for skating and other sports will be developed. There will be professional instructors and expert play leaders to see that the children get the most social and recreational benefits from the association.

"It is hoped that the new association will be entirely different from the club idea as most people know it today.

"Children for the first time will find themselves in a group where the interests of children dominate exclusively. All jazz and other influences, said to be factors in juvenile delinquency, will be eliminated from the new association and the parental and home influence will be retained as far as possible. The children will be able to lead a healthy outdoor life and get the benefits that come from association with a group of clean living and sports loving youngsters."

At the Conventions

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON STATE PARKS

The opening session of the ninth annual meeting of the National Conference on State Parks, held at Clifty Falls State Park, Madison, Indiana, May seventh to ninth, was preceded by a nature guide trip under the leadership of Sidney Esten, chief guide at Turkey Run State Park.

The Indiana Conservation Commission inaugurated nature guiding in its state parks about two years ago, beginning in Turkey Run Park, and the Commission plans to extend this service gradually to all the larger parks. This action is significant in demonstrating the educational-recreational uses and values of state parks. There are now nine state parks in Indiana with an approximate gross area of 8,000 acres, several small properties of historic interest, one area for experimental purposes comprising about 5,000 acres and a game preserve and forest of 12,500 acres, recently acquired in Brown County. The Conservation Commission has been authorized to expend \$100,000 a year for acquisition of property.

The recreational uses of state forests proved a subject of keen interest to the delegates. National forests of this country, according to L. F. Kneipp, Assistant Forester, United States Forest Service, comprise 146 different areas with approximately 182,000,000 acres. Approximately 159,000,000 acres in addition are in Federal Aid Control lands. In other words about 7.25 percent of the entire area of the United States is in national forests. Since beauty and opportunities for outdoor recreation second only to the national parks are to be found in the national forests, there is need of securing the fullest possible service along this line from this huge area. The recreational facilities of national parks include hotels, and cabin sites, let on a rental or concession basis to those who do not wish to camp out, and numerous picnic and temporary camping sites for the passing tourists. There are now 15,000 camp sites of this character representing an expenditure of about \$287,000. There are also private dwelling sites which are leased to family and small groups and sites for organized camping. The total recreational use of the national forests in 1928 was over 22,000,000 (attendance).

Mr. Kneipp also pointed out the importance of regarding national forests as an aid to culture and the value of conserving nature untouched by

modern developments to the end that people now living and generations to come may learn to know something of the primitive conditions encountered by their pioneer forefathers and may know the wonders and secrets of nature unmodified by the hand of man.

Recreation was again touched upon by George N. Mannfeld, Superintendent of Fisheries and Game of the Indiana Department of Conservation. In an address on *The Place of Game in State Recreation*, Mr. Mannfeld said hunting and fishing are two of the greatest outdoor recreations of the American people. In Indiana ten percent of the total population of the state take out licenses yearly for hunting and fishing. In the United States as a whole there were 6,000,000 licenses issued for hunting in 1928. In view of the fact that hunting and fishing are traditional in this country as an inheritance from pioneer days, and in consideration of the great value of the activities in getting city dwellers in contact with nature, the state, he believes, should spare no effort to maintain the supply of fish and game. There should be special game and fish preserves for definite propagation and each state park and forest should be declared a preserve.

Connecticut, according to Austin F. Hawes, State Forester, is doing much for the recreation of its people through its forests. The system of forests of that state comprises forty different properties and a total area of about 8,000 acres. There are, in addition, about sixteen state parks. The plans of the state department include the eventual acquisition of about fifteen percent of the total area of the state for forests. In the existing forests 100 miles of old wood roads have been cleared during the past three years and opened to hikers. Mr. Hawes believes that more forests and parks should be located along motor highways so as to provide beautiful environment for driving; that there should be many miles of trails for hiking and horseback riding and that hunting and fishing should be provided in the forests.

The subject, *How Far Ought We to Develop State Parks?* was interpreted by P. J. Hoffmaster, Superintendent of State Parks, Michigan, to mean, *How Far Shall We Make State Parks Useful to the People.* The primary purpose of state parks areas is recreation, although they may have scientific, historic and other values, he said. Recreation, he felt, should be defined very broadly, and to preserve society we should be willing to sacrifice nature to a considerable degree if necessary.

Book Reviews

CENTRAL PARK. Edited by Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. and Theodore Kimball. Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, N. Y. Price \$7.50

"Central Park—as a Work of Art and as a Great Municipal Enterprise" is a volume which recreation workers will read with great interest and profit. This book is the second volume in a series entitled "Forty Years of Landscape Architecture" being the professional papers of Frederick Law Olmsted, Senior. Although it deals primarily with the history and design of Central Park in New York, it contains in addition a fund of exceedingly valuable information on the origins of the municipal park movement, the functions of city parks, principles in their design and operation, the recreational uses of such areas and the influence of parks upon American life. The continuous fight that Mr. Olmsted and his associates were obliged to make in order to protect Central Park from politicians who wished to use it to their personal advantage is recounted in a most fascinating manner.

In the introductory chapter entitled "Origins of Park Movement," are statements showing that as far back as the sixteenth century there was in Europe a recognition of the value of public open places.

Other early steps in the acquisition of open spaces both in American cities and abroad are described, but it is pointed out that Central Park is the first municipal park established as a result of a "conscious effort of a democratic body to meet a proven need."

Central Park was created because of a recognized need in the rapidly growing metropolis of New York of a place where all classes of the population might have "pleasure and recreation" while enjoying "the advantages of wood, lawn and water." The editorials of William Cullen Bryant in the New York Evening Post repeatedly advocating a large park are believed to have had a considerable influence in developing a public opinion favorable to the project. As early as 1811 a Commission had recommended that the city acquire land totalling 450 acres, but by 1853 when the act was passed authorizing the acquisition of Central Park, only 117 acres of open space were owned by the city. The original park comprised 795 acres but was enlarged in 1863 by the purchase of 65 additional acres. The cost of the original park land was \$5,069,693 of which \$1,657,590 was assessed upon owners of adjacent lands. The 65 acres purchased later cost \$1,179,590 and \$171,075 was assessed upon property owners. Therefore the net cost of the land to the city was only about \$3,850,000. Washington Irving was elected President of the Consulting Board composed of well known citizens who were appointed to help work out a plan for developing the park, and Mr. Olmsted was appointed Superintendent.

1929 MUNICIPAL INDEX. Published by the American City Magazine Corporation, New York. Price \$5.00

This, the sixth annual edition of the Municipal Index, is a stupendous undertaking and the variety and comprehensiveness of the information given is remarkable. There are nineteen sections dealing with all phases of city government and administration. The section on parks and playgrounds contains the directory of park and playground officials and a bibliography.

NEGRO PROBLEMS IN CITIES. Published by Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc., New York City. Price, \$2.50

This volume presents a report of a study made by the Institute of Social and Religious Research under the direction of T. J. Woofter, Jr., of the neighborhoods, housing, schools and recreation in seven northern and nine southern cities. The recreation problem is taken up from the point of view of needs, the connection between recreation and juvenile delinquency being stressed, municipal facilities, such as parks, playgrounds and libraries, organizations and commercial recreation.

STORIES—A List of Stories to Tell and to Read Aloud. Edited by Mary Gould Davis. New York Public Library, New York City. Price, \$25

This list compiled by the storytellers of the New York Public Library, has been nearly twenty years in the making. There has been no attempt to make the list complete either as a whole or in any of its parts. The editions selected are those which seemed most helpful both in text and in form to the story hour. No story is given in the list which has not stood the test of the children's interest and approval. The list has been made by the storytellers but has been endorsed by the boys and girls.

The list is classified as follows—*For the Story Hour, For the Older Boys and Girls, and Hero Stories.*

COMMUNITY RECREATION. By James Claude Elsom, M.D. Published by the Century Company, New York. Price, \$2.25

Dr. Elsom's book presents briefly some of the principles with which the recreation worker should be familiar, and suggests activities for holidays, social gatherings and community programs. This practical material is classified according to the seasons, making it readily usable. One of the most interesting chapters of the book is entitled *Recreation Historically Considered*; here the antiquity of games and their historic development are presented. There is also a chapter on *Play Reading* and another on *Community Music*, which has been prepared by Edgar B. Gordon of the University of Wisconsin.

SCHOOL CLUBS. By Harry C. McKown. Published by Macmillan Company, New York. Price, \$2.50

Very definite and concrete information on the organization, administration and supervision of school clubs of various types is given in this volume. The material, the Preface explains, was gathered from many sources, and after analysis, classification and compilation, each section was placed in the hands of experts in these fields for criticism. In this way it was made possible to secure the most authoritative and helpful material available.

INSTRUCTION BOOK ON BASKETRY AND REED FURNITURE. Brown's Supply Company, Willernie, Minnesota.

This booklet containing a glossary of the terms used in weaving projects, gives directions for making baskets and reed furniture of various kinds. The directions are explicit and there are a number of illustrations accompanying the text.

OFFICIAL INTERCOLLEGIATE FOOTBALL GUIDE. Edited by E. K. Hall. National Collegiate Athletic Association. American Sports Publishing Company, New York City. Price, \$35

In addition to the football rules, the Guide contains records, championships and similar material.

OFFICIAL BASKETBALL GUIDE FOR WOMEN, 1929-30. Spalding's Athletic Library, No. 17R. American Sports Publishing Company, New York. Price, 25 cents

This new Guide contains the revised official rules as adopted by the National Section on Women's Athletics of the American Physical Education Association. The booklet contains in addition to the rules a number of articles of interest, information regarding the Women's Official Rating Committee and similar material.

OFFICIAL FIELD HOCKEY GUIDE—1929. Spalding's Athletic Library, No. 38R. American Sports Publishing Company, New York. Price, 25c

This booklet, issued by the United States Field Hockey Association and American Physical Education Association, contains in addition to the rules for hockey a number of articles and information regarding tournaments.

A SURVEY OF AGENCIES WORKING WITH AND FOR CHILDREN. By Mildred A. Moody and Elva M. West-

brook. Published by the International Council of Religious Education, 5 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Illinois

Approximately 265 agencies have been listed in this booklet and information has been given about their activities. The method which has been used in indexing material adds greatly to the usefulness of the book.

OFFICIAL RULES OF PLAYGROUND BASEBALL. Spalding's Athletic Library, Group 1, No. 12R. Published by American Sports Publishing Company, New York City. Price, \$.25

This booklet contains the rules for playground baseball, also known as kitten ball, soft ball and twilight ball, drawn up by a committee appointed by Joseph Lee, President of the P. R. A. A., of which Dr. William Burdick, of Baltimore, is chairman. The committee held its first meeting at the National Recreation Congress at Memphis in October, 1927, and received the suggestions of a number of recreation executives who had had considerable experience with the game. At this meeting and subsequently during the fall the committee made a thorough study of all existing rules and finally approved a set of rules which were adopted early in 1928. A further study of the rules was made during the summer of 1928 and the committee again met the National Recreation Congress at Atlantic City in October, 1928. At this meeting the committee adopted the present rules.

GIRL SCOUT HANDBOOK. Published by Girl Scouts, Inc., New York City.

This abridged edition of the handbook, prepared for use until a new handbook can be published, is full of the information which each Girl Scout leader and Girl Scout should have. There are twenty-two sections, each having to do with some phase of the program such as first aid, Girl Scout nature trail, woodcraft, the homemaker, Girl Scout proficiency and special badges, and sign language and signalling.

YOU CAN MAKE IT. United States Department of Commerce. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Price, 10c

This practical pamphlet represents the report of a sub-committee of the National Committee on Wood Utilization of the Department of Commerce. It gives directions and plans for making articles from second-hand boxes and odd pieces of lumber. Articles of all kinds are described including household furniture and other equipment for the home and garden, camp equipment and toys of many kinds. Recreation workers and teachers will find this booklet of great value.

MODERN ARCHERY. By Arthur W. Lambert, Jr. Published by A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. Price, \$3.00

The art of archery is most interestingly developed in this textbook on the art of shooting for accuracy with the bow and arrow. It will guide both novice and student to a better understanding of the principles that underlie the art of shooting accurately with the ancient weapon. Indoor and night shooting as well as outdoor shooting are described and there are suggestions for conducting tournaments. Many illustrations added to the attractiveness of the volume.

OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE INTERCOLLEGIATE AMATEUR ATHLETICS OF AMERICA. Spalding's Athletic Library. American Sports Publishing Company, New York. Price, 25c

Rules of competition, constitution, by-laws and records make up the new 1929-1930 Handbook of the I.C.A.A.A.

Tennis Playing in York, Pennsylvania.—

Between 300 and 350 children received free tennis instruction last summer on the tennis courts conducted by the York, Pennsylvania, Department of Recreation. The Department furnished the balls and racquets and the children paid five cents for an hour's use of the courts. The tennis instructor paid by the Department taught six hours a day, three in the morning and three in the late afternoon. One hundred and eighty-nine children played in the juvenile tourney under four main divisions—children under twelve, those over twelve, experienced players who had played more than one season and those playing only during the past summer. So interested did the children become in the game that over fifty percent of them bought racquets and balls.

Leathercraft on the Cincinnati Playgrounds.—Leathercraft was taught last summer on twenty-seven of Cincinnati's playgrounds. Each playground was supplied with leather, tools and leaflets of instruction by the Leathercraft Studios, 540 Main Street. The project was very popular with children and teachers and such articles were made as table mats, coin purses, etc.

Conduct of Community Centers

With the fall season the community center comes into its own. In *The Conduct of Community Centers* you will have a booklet to help you in your task of organizing and conducting the city's community centers. There are sections on the organization and administration of community centers, the program and its organization, facilities and equipment, and suggestions for the conduct of centers.

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Leadership Plan on the Summer Playgrounds of Cleveland Heights, Ohio

Earle D. Campbell, Director of Public Recreation, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, devised the following plan of leadership for the summer playgrounds of his community:

Six playgrounds were conducted with a man and a woman as leaders on five of them and one alone on the sixth. The salaries varied from \$5.00 to \$6.50 per day, depending on the experience of the worker. The playgrounds were open morning, afternoon and evening and were conducted for a period of ten weeks. In addition there were three tennis court attendants, one full time receiving \$25.00 a week, one for six hours a day receiving \$16.00 a week, and the third for a three weeks' period.

A special assistant in toy making was employed full time for eleven weeks at \$8.00 a day, and an instructor in airplane building and music for ten weeks at \$5.00 a day. This worker had a beginner's class in airplane building from 1:30 to 5 two days a week and an advanced class two other days each week. Each Wednesday he conducted a band practice, the band being made up of members of the school band and others in the community. On one evening and one afternoon a week, he held classes in harmonica playing on the playgrounds. He was also responsible for a horse-shoe tournament for adults.

An interesting plan was worked out for volunteer leadership by a group of older Girl Scouts. These girls, members of the junior and senior classes in high school, belonged to a so-called Citizen Girl Scout Group who had received instruction during the school year in play leadership under the director of the physical education department. Through an arrangement with the local Girl Scout Commissioner these girls received credit in their Scout work for community service by volunteering as leaders of hiking groups each Wednesday morning. One of the Girl Scouts was employed as official hike supervisor. She divided her groups from the playgrounds into bands of eight or ten girls each and sent them out on hikes with these volunteer leaders. In addition to receiving credit for community service work, the volunteers were given badges of merit as awards from the Girl Scouts. This plan is working very

satisfactorily and it is hoped that from the group future playground leaders will be developed.

A new plan was also worked out last summer in connection with the institutes. These institutes were held on Monday mornings from ten to twelve when the playgrounds were closed and each week two play leaders, a man and a woman, were responsible for presenting the material. Experience showed that this plan helped the play leaders in gaining confidence. Adults in the neighborhood invited to attend enjoyed the program thoroughly.

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Fifty-two lithe, glistening, naked boys from nine to twelve years are diving, swimming, jumping up and down, shouting, splashing, ducking, playing tag, catching water balls or just standing and enjoying the coolness and the freedom of the light, roomy, clean new swimming pool in the new high school at Monroe, Michigan. The director's whistle blows; he calls "Buddies." The boys scramble out over all sides of the pool. They group in pairs, holding each the hand of one other boy above his head. When the director sees that all are paired off, the whistle blows again and into the water they go.

This is one way of guarding against accidents. At the start of the swimming hour, the boys pair off as buddies. Each boy is to know where his buddy is all the time. Every six or eight minutes the whistle blows and they pair off. It doesn't seem to interfere with the fun, it gives each one a sense of responsibility and it makes it almost certain that no one can get in trouble in the water without its being discovered.

The school pools are used in summer in connection with the playground programs in the following Michigan cities: Dearborn, Detroit, Hamtramck, Highland Park, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Monroe, River Rouge, Royal Oak, Wyandotte and Ypsilanti. There are artificial out-of-door pools under recreation departments in Albion, Battle Creek, Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, Lansing and Saginaw. There are beaches under supervision in Ann Arbor, Detroit, Grand Rapids, Grosse Pointe, Harbor Beach, Holland, Mt. Clemens, Muskegon, Pontiac and Port Huron.

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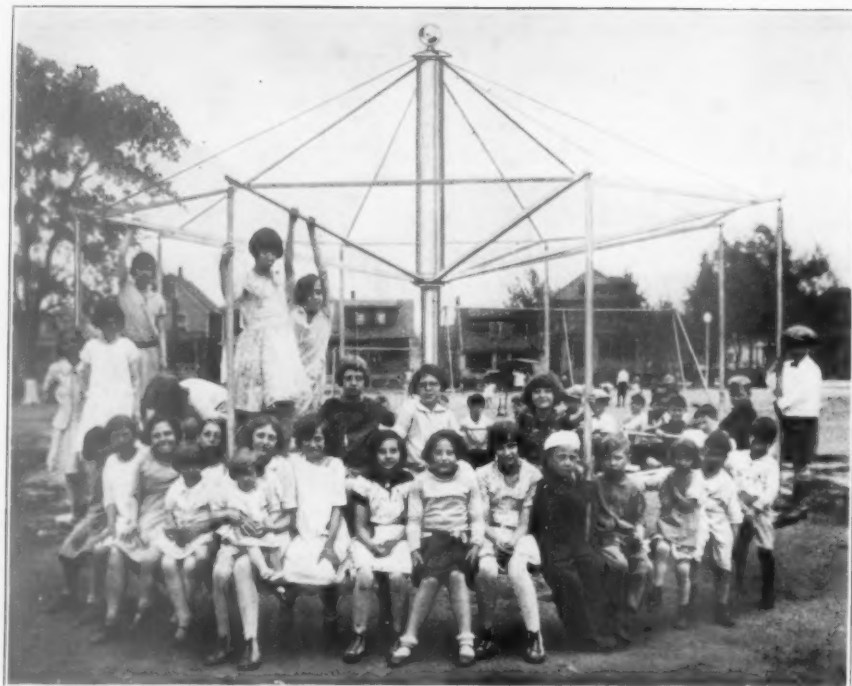


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an end of the season
EDITORIAL to
PLAYGROUND
DIRECTORS

We have seen the playground become a definite branch of our educational system; with the playground director of today a specialized and trained educator.

The playground director's responsibility is not alone the safety of the children; not alone that the children under his charge are kept interested; but that from the directed playground activities the children receive a training in group action that has definite value in future life.

It has been our privilege to be associated with the playground movement from its inception. It has been our privilege to work in close co-operation with playground directors for many years.

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